

THE LONDON LITERARY GAZETTE;

AND

Journal of Belles Lettres, Arts, Sciences, &c.

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No. 925.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1834.

PRICE 8d.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Thorpe's Catalogue of Manuscript State Papers. 8vo. pp. 637. London, 1834. Thorpe. We have taken the liberty of omitting Mr. Thorpe's title-page, which (though in itself a curiosity), consisting of upwards of fifty closely printed lines, is too ponderous an affair for our slender columns regularly to support in the ordinary run of business. But this admission must not be understood as proceeding from any inclination to dismiss lightly an extraordinary and important volume—for such the one before us is in its contents alone, without reference to the unique historical documents, the very existence of which is for the first time recorded in it. Volumes have been, and may, and probably will, be written upon the contents of this Catalogue, nay upon many of the single papers which it contains; and though trifling and gossiping matters are, to our mind, not disagreeably mixed with affairs of state, yet here we also find several of those documents the stern historical importance of which have decided the fate of kings and kingdoms. Our duty, however, is merely to call the public attention to Mr. Thorpe's Catalogue, not to perform the part of moralist thereon.

The staple of this collection of state papers appears to be the manuscripts purchased at the De Clifford sale, about six months since; and hence the greater portion of those now laid open for inspection consists of the private letters of public men, and of their official and demi-official correspondence. This mingling of public and private opinions and feelings constitutes, in our opinion, the great value of the collection; for the confidential letters of statesmen exhibit political views and develop motives of action which are otherwise incomprehensible; and without the knowledge of such papers the historian is led from out of his own proper sphere of fact into the poet's kingdom of fiction, where historical importance, like a fairy vision, soon melts

—“into air—thin air.”

The diaries, journals, notes, and correspondence, to which we more particularly refer, are the papers of Sir Robert Southwell, clerk of the privy council, and ambassador to Portugal; of Mr. Blithwaite, secretary at war; and of the right hon. Edward Southwell, principal secretary of state for Ireland. Without the knowledge of these papers, the history of the reigns of Charles II., James II., William III., Anne, and George I., cannot be truly written. Many of them are actually the state papers of the country; and, considering the importance of the collection as far beyond that of a mass of dry and dusty official records; considering that in this collection exists the spirit of the times—at once its substance and shadow; considering that this collection involves points of interest to every individual in this country—more or less, as auctioneers phrase it,—ardently do we desire to see the whole secured to the public; and sincerely do we hope that, if government is unable, from want of means, to be-

come the possessors of the Southwell Papers, some spirited individual of the house of commons will distinguish himself by bringing the subject before the consideration of parliament. We have no doubt as to the result. The word auctioneer, which we have involuntarily written, startles us!—It is not possible that England will suffer this inestimable collection of her state papers to be dispersed.

We shall probably return to this subject, but in the mean time select a few passages from the commencement of Mr. Thorpe's Catalogue, rather with the view of amusing our readers than of informing them of the value of the manuscripts in question.

Political and Literary.—“ANNE. Answer, under the Queen's Sign Manual, to the Representation of the Commons of Ireland, dated St. James's, Nov. 8, 1703. Provisions in the Act for Security of her Majesty's Person and Government, and of the Succession to the Crown of Great Britain in the Protestant Line. Draft of the Letter to the Elector of Hanover, announcing the approaching Dissolution of the Queen, dated 'From the Council Chamber at Kensington, Saturday, July 31, 1714, 11 o'clock in the Morning.' Copy of the Letter to King George the First, announcing the Death of the Queen and his Accession, dated Council Chamber at St. James's, Aug. 1, 1714. As historical documents, these papers are entitled to considerable estimation, but more so from a singular fact recorded of the celebrated Addison. During the illness of Queen Anne, and preparatory to King George the First's accession, a regency of the lords was constituted, and Addison was the secretary, and, by the nature of his office, was required to send notice to Hanover that the queen was dead, and that the throne was vacant. To do this would not have been difficult to any man but Addison, who was so overwhelmed with the greatness of the event, and so distracted by choice of expression, that the lords, who could not wait for the niceties of criticism, called Mr. Southwell, a clerk in the house, and ordered him to despatch the message. Southwell readily told what was necessary, in the common style of business, and valued himself upon having done what was too hard for Addison. The present are Southwell's rough drafts of the communications in question.”

Literary History.—A letter from William, afterwards the second Lord Ashburnham, to his cousin, the Right Honourable Edward Southwell, dated 4th August, 1703, informs him that “Daniel Luff, one of your Rye neighbours and friends, is dead; and soe is Mr. Puckle, an other.” This was the author of ‘the Club,’ now better known as Puckle's Club. The editor of the recent beautifully decorated edition was unable to obtain any particulars of him.”

Squabble with a Wit.—Dr. Marmaduke Coghill, the chancellor of the Irish Exchequer, in a letter dated 1st April (an ominous day), 1736, observes to the Hon. Edward Southwell—“I see Sir Thomas Prendergrass has got nothing by his resentment against Dean Swift;

and, indeed, I never knew any man a gainer by being provoked at a wit, for the laugh is always against you, and the only return from a wit is fresh satire.”

Literature.—Mr. Thorpe's collection contains three long and interesting letters from Boyer, the well-known author of our most popular French and English dictionary, which, observes Mr. Thorpe, was “drawn up originally for the use of the Duke of Gloucester, and first printed in 1699, 4to., and still retains its celebrity, Boyer having singularly attained the knowledge of the English language as perfectly as if it had been his native tongue. As an historiographer, he was the author of the ‘Political State of Great Britain,’ and the ‘History of King William and Queen Mary;’ but in this character he is not so conspicuous as in the former. He died at Chelsea, in November 1729.”

These letters are thus carefully analysed in the Catalogue before us. The first is dated London, September 24, 1703, and states that “the interruption of all commerce with France makes most of the presses in Holland stand still.” Then follow notices of the labours of Le Clerc and others. Interesting particulars of the last hours of M. de St. Evremont, ‘who died here the 9th of this month, in the ninety-fourth or ninety-fifth year of his age.’ Two of the most tolerable epigrammatical epitaphs, by the French refugee wits, on M. de St. Evremont. A Latin epigram on the same subject, &c. M. Graverol, a French minister, upon St. Evremont's being interred in Westminster, said of him—

‘Tandem mortuus, primum ecclesiam ingreditur.’

Being solicited to write something on this occasion, I made these four lines, wherein, in a humorous way, I have endeavoured to mark the character of St. Evremont—

C'est St. Evremont, de célèbre memoire,
Qui sut si bien parler, écrire, manger, boire:
Qui proscrit par la France, et dans Londres reçut,
Y mit avec son Bien, son Ame à fond perdu.

Lines written by Mr. George Granville, afterwards Lord Lansdowne, on the illness of Dr. Garth, who has lately laboured under a violent distemper. Complimentary allusion to the proposed election of Mr. Southwell to represent Dublin University in parliament. His letters to be addressed to him at Mr. Gilbert's, a grocer, in Dean street, So Ho.”

The second letter, dated Nov. 21, 1703, “commences with a long and interesting analysis of some recent publications by Bayle. The second volume of the Earl of Clarendon's ‘History of the Rebellion’ was published about a fortnight ago, with a dedication to the queen, by the Earl of Rochester, who has not thought fit to put his name to it. Another epigram on M. de St. Evremont's death, by M. Hulim, a friend of Boyer's. Mr. Wycherley's Miscellany Poems are actually printing, in a folio of the bigness of Prince Arthur. He has done me the honour to communicate some of them to me, and I must do him the justice to say, that though his verses want the numbers and

harmony of those of Waller and Dryden, yet the excellency and uncommonness of his thoughts on very common subjects will recommend them to the esteem of the public. Verses by Dr. Garth, on the Ladies Wharton and Godolphin, — 'our modern English poets are grown mighty good-natured, for instead of lampoons they write panegyrics.' Then follow, verses written by the Lord Halifax on a blank of a volume of Waller's poems, at Althorp, upon seeing the Old Lady Sunderland's picture, by Vandyck, in the gallery—

Vandyke had colour, softness, force, and art,
When the fair Sunderland inflamed his heart.
Waller had numbers, fancy, wit, and fire,
And Sacharissa was his fond desire:
Why, then, at Althorp seem her charms so faint?
In these sweet numbers and that glowing paint?
This happy seat a fairer mistress warms,
The shining offspring has eclipsed her charms.
Their different beauties in one face we find,
Soft Amoret with brighter Sacharissa join'd;
As high as nature reached their art could soar,
But she ne'er made a finished piece before.

Lines by Mr. Addison, on the Countess of Manchester. Congratulates Southwell on the happy termination of the session of parliament, and sends him a pamphlet he had lately written in favour of the poor Cevenois.

The third letter, which is dated Dec. 22, 1703, 16s., "details a full analysis of Dr. D'Avenant's 'Essay upon Peace.' The book was written to dissuade the passing of the bill against occasional conformity, and was successful in its purpose. The Duke of Devonshire is enumerated among those who spoke loudest against the bill; and this letter comprises a complete history of the opposition made to the author and his book. There are also some interesting notices on the discovery of the practices of the French emissaries in Scotland, in favour of the pretender, and the proceedings on the subject, by the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Somers, &c. Congratulates Mr. Southwell on his marriage. A poet has defied us

To shew a man of sense, on all the roll,
That some one woman has not made a fool.

You, sir, are an exception to this rule, and your illustrious choice is applauded by every body; which is followed by an eulogium in Boyer's own verses.

London Serenading.—In a letter from Mr. William Bird to Mr. Secretary Southwell, dated June 1703, he says, "Lord Conway last night bid Mrs. Johnson adieu in the finest serenade I ever heard. It lasted from one to three o'clock, which brought all the ladies in Red Lion Square to their windows, and Mrs. Tempest took it ill that the compliment was not paid at her door. We have here a very quiet town, and very wet weather; no politics, no gallantry, no scandal; so that there is no time lost by being in Ireland."

Music.—A long letter from Sir Samuel Astley to Sir Robert Southwell, dated 3d November, 1687, contains the following curious passage respecting the organs of the Inner and Middle Temple. "This week my lord chancellor met the benchers of both Temples in the hall of the Inner Temple, and elected eleven of each society to give their suffrage which was the best organ that was made at the charges of each society by different organists. The eleven of the Middle house voted for their organ, which was made by one Smith, a Protestant; and all of the Inner house but Mr. Finch, who is skilful in music, voted for their organ, which was made by one Harris, a Roman Catholic; so that the organ of the Middle Temple was approved by the voice of Mr. Finch, who voted to his judgment, though against his own society. This refers to the revels in the Temple

hall, of which little has appeared before the public."

Irish Nunneries.—No. 121 is a "Copy of the Warrant for Letters Patent, granting full power to Marie Butler, Abbess, and Margaret, Mariam, and Marie Lawson, Nuns of the Order of St. Benedict, for the founding a Nunnery, in Dublin, for themselves and successors, under the name of the 'Abbess and Convent of our Royal Monastery of S. Benedict, called Gratia Dei,' dated Dublin Castle, May 10, 1690. Copia vera, excud. Rich. Cox. An interesting document in Irish monastical history, as it contains the leading points of the contemplated immunities and privileges which James, with his kingly power, was determined to grant them. The verification of Sir Rich. Cox, the historian of Ireland, renders it of equal value with the original, which was destroyed in the Council Office, in Dublin Castle, in 1719."

Alchemie.—No. 116 in Mr. Thorpe's catalogue, is a "transcript of the Draft of Lord High Treasurer Burleigh's Letter to Mr. Dyer, at Prague, for the inviting over Sir Edward Kelly into England, with his Secrets of the Philosopher's Stone, urging, among other considerations, its seasonableness for supporting the charge of the Queen's Navy, at that time going forth to withstand the Spanish Armada, then newly discovered upon the coast, 7s. 6d. The letter, which exhibits a new trait in Lord Burleigh's character—that he was weak enough to believe in the possibility of the transmutation of the baser metals to gold—expresses a wish that Sir Edward Kelly would, in a box, transmit a sufficiency of the powder to the queen to defray the great charges she was at—
But wishers and woulders
Were ne'er good householders.

So he adds—'From the court at my house of Theobald's, where her majesty hath been already come since Monday, and I think departeth not till Thursday; the which time I could be contented might have been tripled, so I had but one corne of Sir Edward Kelly's powder.'

The Sphinx.—The common-place book of Mr. Baldwin, the British consul in Egypt, contains the following solution of the figure of the sphinx: "I have heard strange fables and strange conjectures concerning the Egyptian deity, but I have never met with its solution in the simple manner in which it has occurred to me. The sphinx is represented by a figure having the body of a lion and the bust and head of a virgin, forming together a figure composed of the two signs of the zodiac, Leo and Virgo: through which signs the sun is coursing at the time of the inundations of the Nile, from which Egypt derives its fertility and the people their subsistence. It was very natural, therefore, for an enlightened people, leading the opinions of their credulous and superstitious brethren, wishing to dedicate their gratitude to a Supreme Being, to attribute the felicity they derived from this immediate cause to the apparent one in the heavens; and, consequently, to compose a deity of those signs in which the sun prevailed during the inundations of the Nile, from which all their abundance necessarily depended."*

* Since this was written, a competent authority observes:—"I have carefully examined the Harleian, Cottonian, and Lansdowne MSS., and they are absolutely destitute of all information upon which the Southwell MSS. abound, viz. the intrigues of the Court (Charles II. and James II.) Relating to Ireland, they present a vivid picture of the infamy with which the interests of that country have ever been regarded; and, in short, I conceive it will be a national disgrace to allow their separation."

The Drawing-Room Scrap-Book for 1835, with Poetical Illustrations by L. E. L. London, 1835. Fisher and Co.

This volume for the present year seems to us, on a hasty inspection, (for it only reached us on Thursday evening,) to contain a more than usual variety of subject; and, consequently, to have afforded greater opportunities for the diversified illustrations of the genius which has brightened its pages from the first till now. L. E. L. has not of late appeared so frequently as heretofore in the field of poesy; and it is delightful to find her again pouring forth all the beauties of her inspiration. Where do we meet with song so original, so animating, so attuned to every genuine feeling of the heart. There is a perpetual freshness in the stream; and whether it leap with sparkling exultation, as if to shew how life's difficulties may be over-bounded; or bathe the banks, as if it wished to water their fleeting flowers with tears; or flow with placid breadth towards the calm haven of rest,—still it must be a high gratification to the lovers of what is imaginative, pure, and delicious in verse, to learn that it is as inexhaustible as it is various and delightful.

Passing over a fine poetical introduction in which Paris is vividly imaged, we shall quote three of the compositions as affording the best proof of the justice of our eulogy, and of the rich talent and touching pathos of the fair writer.

"The Orphan Ballad Singers."

Oh, weary, weary are our feet,
And weary, weary is our way;
Through many a long and crowded street
We've wandered mournfully to-day.
My little sister she is pale;
She is too tender and too young
To bear the autumn's sullen gale,
And all day long the child has sung.
She was our mother's favourite child,
Who loved her for her eyes of blue;
And she is delicate and mild—
She cannot do what I can do.
She never met her father's eyes.
Although they were so like her own;
In some far distant sea he lies,
A father to his child unknown.
The first time that she lisped his name,
A little playful thing was she;
How proud we were,—yet that night came
The tale how he had sunk at sea.
My mother never raised her head—
How strange, how white, how cold she grew!
It was a broken heart, they said—
I wish our hearts were broken too.
We have no home—we have no friends;
They said our home no more was ours—
Our cottage where the ash-tree bends,
The garden we had filled with flowers;
The sounding shells our father brought,
That we might hear the sea at home;
Our bees, that in the summer wrought
The winter's golden honeycomb.
We wandered forth mid wind and rain,
No shelter from the open sky;
I only wish to see again
My mother's grave, and rest, and die.
Alas, it is a weary thing
To sing our ballads o'er and o'er—
The songs we used at home to sing—
Alas, we have a home no more!"

"The Coquette."

She danced upon the waters,
Beneath the morning sun,
Of all old ocean's daughters
The very fairest one.
An azure zone compressed her
Round her white and slender side,
For her gallant crew had dressed her
Like a beauty and a bride.
She wore her trappings gaily,
As a lady ought to do,
And the waves which kissed her daily
Proud of their mistress grew.
They clung like lovers round her,
And bathed her airy feet;
With white foam wreaths they bound her,
To grace her, and to greet.
She cut the blue waves, scorning
Our dull and common land;
To the rosy airs of morning
We saw her sails expand.

How graceful was their drooping,
Ere the winds began to blow,
While the gay Coquette was stooping
To her clear green glass below!

How gallant was their sweeping,
While they swelled upon the air;
As the winds were in their keeping,
And they knew they were so fair!

A shower of spray before her,
A silvery wake behind,
A cloud of canvass o'er her,
She sprang before the wind.

She was so loved, the fairy,
Like a mistress or a child;
For she was so trim and airy,
So buoyant and so wild.
And though so young a rover,
She knew what life could be;
For she had wandered over
Full many a distant sea.

One night, 'twas in September,
A mist arose on high;
Not the oldest could remember
Such a dense and darkened sky:
And small dusk birds came hovering
The gloomy waters o'er;
The waves mocked their sweet sovereign,
And would obey no more.

There was no wind to move them,
So the sails were furled and fast,
And the gallant flag above them
Dropped down upon the mast.
All was still as if death's shadow
Were resting on the grave;
And the sea, like some dark meadow,
Had not one rippling wave.

When the sky was rent asunder
With a flood of crimson light,
And one single burst of thunder
Aroused the silent night.
'Twas the signal for their waking!
The angry winds arose,
Like giant captives breaking
The chain of forced repose.

Yet bravely did she greet them,
Those jarring winds and waves;
Ready with scorn to meet them,
They who had been her slaves.
She faced the angry heaven,
Our bold and fair Coquette;
Her graceful sides are riven,
But she will brave it yet.

Like old oak of the forest,
Down comes the thundering mast;
Her need is at the shore,
She shudders in the blast.
Hark to that low quick gushing!
The hold has sprung a leak;
On their prey the waves are rushing,
The valiant one grows weak.

One cry, and all is quiet;
There is no sight nor sound,
Save the fierce gale at its riot,
And the angry waters round.
The morn may come with weeping,
And the storm may cease to blow;
But the fair Coquette is sleeping
A thousand fathoms low."

"Culdron Snout.—Westmorland.

A place of rugged rocks, adown whose sides
The mountain torrent rushes; on whose crags
The raven builds her nest, and tells her young
Of former funeral feasts.

Long years have past since last I stood
Alone amid this mountain-scene;
Unlike the future which I dreamed,
How like my future it has been!
A cold grey sky o'erhanging with clouds,
With showers in every passing shade;
How like the moral atmosphere
Whose gloom my horoscope has made!

I thought if yet my weary feet
Could rove my native hills again,
A world of feeling would revive—
Sweet feelings wasted, worn in vain.
My early hopes, my early joys,
I dreamed those valleys would restore;
I asked for childhood to return—
For childhood, which returns no more.

Surely the scene itself is changed!
There did not always rest, as now,
That shadow in the valley's depth,
That gloom upon the mountain-brow.
Wild flowers within the chasms dwell,
Like treasures in some fairy hold,
And morning o'er the mountains shed
Her kindling world of vapory gold.

Another season of the year
Is now upon the earth and me;
Another spring will light these hills—
No other spring mine own may be;

I must retune my unstrung heart,
I must forget the sleeping tomb,
I must recall the loved and lost,
Ere spring again for me could bloom.

I've wandered, but it was in vain,
In many a far and foreign clime;
Absence is not forgetfulness,
And distance cannot vanquish time.

One face was ever in my sight,
One voice was ever on my ear;
From all earth's loveliness I turned
To wish, Ah that the dead were here!

Oh! weary wandering to no home!
Oh! weary wandering alone!
I turned to childhood's once glad scenes,
And found life's last illusion flown.
Ah! those who left their childhood's scenes
For after-years of toil and pain,
Who but bring back the breaking heart,
Should never seek those scenes again."

There are many pieces on Indian scenery, of great power; and several poems and plates from *Pilgrim's Progress*, by B. Barton, and some charming music by Mr. Russell (the admirable base singer), add much to the popular interest of the volume. The engravings are numerous, but of these we shall speak under our department of the Fine Arts, next week; and, in the mean time, have no more to say than that *this Drawing-Room book* is well calculated to adorn every sort of room, and to afford much pleasure to every class of the circles they contain.

Life of Prince Talleyrand, Vols. I. and II.
8vo. London, 1834. Churton.

WE alluded to this book in our last No. as one of the disgraceful order which reflect no credit on the state of the press. The love of lies and the greedy appetite for slander, which are nourished by the baser journals, are here whetted in the more solid form of volumes. Purporting to be derived from a foreign authority (a translation from the French into the German or some other language), the compiler of the work rakes up a hundred scandals against the individual whose name is so attractive on a title-page; and, diluting them with familiar details from the history of the Revolution, has produced one of those book-making publications so rife in our day. That it is unauthentic is nothing; that it is libellous is perhaps a recommendation. What is to follow we know not; but the first course carries us to the elevation of Buonaparte to the consulate, and pretends to expound all that is public or private in the career and character of Talleyrand, assuredly one of the most remarkable men of the age, and one whose biography, if ever it shall be truly written, would be, indeed, a tale of wonder and importance.

The moral principles of the writer (if he has any) may be gathered from the following extract:—

"Another anecdote relating to the early youth of M. de Talleyrand naturally has a place here. We do not, however, warrant its authenticity; a sort of caution we will scrupulously adhere to when trespassing upon doubtful ground. But then why not abstain altogether from alluding to facts of such uncertain nature that they do not warrant the information you pretend to convey to your readers? Why—on this very simple ground:—that when a man has reached a certain degree of celebrity, the very calumnies he has given rise to by the general bent of his actions make, as it were, an integral part of his life; because falsehood itself is a sort of reality, as the world goes; and, after all, the man is not calumniated who pleases."

This passage will serve as a key to the whole spirit of the work; from which we shall merely copy a passage or two to shew how such things

are got up, like the razors, "to sell." The following letter, relating to the celebrated ceremony of the *Champ de Mars*, at which Talleyrand performed mass, and received the oaths of the representatives of the people, is attributed to him, and said to be addressed to his mistress, the Countess de F—, whom he afterwards deserted:—

"Though Talleyrand (says the writer) was so much taken up with his plots and intrigues—though he had speeches to prepare, reports to make, and addresses to present to the assembly, he still found time to devote to the ladies. His correspondence with his female friend of the day was more frequent even than usual; and he did not let a day pass without writing to her when it was out of his power to pay her a visit. On the 15th of July, the day following that of the ceremony at the *Champ de Mars*, the Countess de F— received from him, at eight in the morning, the following letter:—"If you were as much pleased with the place provided for you at the ridiculous ceremony of yesterday as I was myself to see and admire you in the seat which you occupied, you must have borne the storm with the same composure that I did. The Duke of Orleans forced me to spend the evening at the Palais Royal, otherwise I should have gone to ease my heart with you, and discharge it of all the painful impressions that had assailed it—impressions as contrary to each other as can be imagined. For, verily, I do not rightly know which is to be most pitied, the sovereign or the people, France or Europe. If the king is tempted to rely on the affection of his subjects, he is irretrievably lost; and if, on the other hand, the people be not on their guard against the fluctuating character of the king, I foresee the greatest misfortunes, and rivers of blood will flow during many years, to punish the enthusiasm of a few months. I foresee the innocent involved in the same destruction with the guilty. Whatever happens, either the cause of liberty is likely to be lost, or the tranquillity of France destroyed, for a long lapse of time. Far be the notion from me that Louis XVI. is of a sanguinary temper or disposition; but a weak monarch, surrounded with imprudent advisers, but too easily becomes cruel, or what leads to the same result, his weakness allows the most atrocious acts to be perpetrated under the authority of his name. Whatever turn, then, things take, I cannot view the events of yesterday without the greatest alarm, especially since my late conversation with the duke. There is no crime, however odious or revolting, which his soul is not ready to conceive, to serve his ambition or his revenge. Happily he has not sufficient nerve to execute the horrible imaginations which his brain so rapidly engenders. Mirabeau is now as much disgusted with the man as I am. We are both of us at a loss very often to conceal from him the contempt he excites in us. Sieyès, however, is always the same in regard to him; and, as he is chief adviser, no wonder he approves of every thing the duke does. Sieyès is become jealous of us, and seems to distrust us; but we are too much upon our guard to let him discover, before the time, that we intend to leave both him and his hero where we found them. Sieyès, in the presence of sixteen persons, asked me, with that sardonic smile which you know is habitual to him, how I could remain serious while going through the buffooneries at the *Champ de Mars*; and by how many Christians I thought myself surrounded, in the hundred thousand spectators, at least, who attended the ceremony, and took

the Christian and national oath? I answered that I was perfectly ignorant in that respect. 'According to my own calculation,' did he reply, 'it may amount to five hundred individuals, including the duke, you, myself, and all those of our party who were present.' If I must speak my mind, my dear little friend, I fear he has greatly exaggerated the number of the faithful; and, though a philosopher myself, I cannot help deploring the advance incredulity is making every day. I share in that respect the opinion of Voltaire, that whether or not we ourselves believe in God is perfectly unimportant, but that it is imminently dangerous, in any community that the bulk of its members should think they could rob, steal, poison, and murder, without punishment in this world and fear of it in the next. We are come to a pass when doctrines contrary to good morals are more to be dreaded than before, because the laws are almost without force, and the mass of the people think themselves above them. What is yet more to be deplored is, that a National Assembly should have made it a predominating interest of its own to maintain in the people such a feeling of immorality as well as of political anarchy. I acknowledge that it is not in good taste for a lover to entertain his beloved friend with such philosophical trash as this; but to whom am I to impart all that lies at the bottom of my heart, if not to you, who are so much above the pretensions and prejudices of your sex? I hope your usual penetration has not misled you with regard to the divinity to which I was addressing my prayers and my oath of fidelity, and that you were truly that supreme being, whom I do and shall ever adore in my heart. How does your *emboupoint*? Will your Charles soon have a brother or sister; or is it only a false alarm? Kiss our dear child. I shall sup with you tomorrow. Burn this letter."

In a subsequent epistle to the same lady, he is made to offer this pithy remark:—

"My dear love, I am really indignant when I reflect upon the facility of making dupes in this world."

Another extract will more completely demonstrate the author's ideas of what is correct, and what the sacredness of truth demands.

"Whilst Mirabeau was occupied in the necessary arrangements for the success of the plan he had formed to change the impetus given to the government, he fell suddenly ill, and, after two days of most acute suffering, expired in the arms of Talleyrand, on the 2d of April, 1791. 'I carry the monarchy with me—some faction men will divide the wreck of it among themselves; you, my friend, have too much sense not to take your share.' These were Mirabeau's last words. As soon as his illness became known, the whole capital was in alarm; crowds of men and women waited at the door of his house to inquire after his health, and at every moment messages arrived from the king. In the *procès verbal*, published by the medical men who opened the body, his death was attributed to a sanguine obstruction—they stated that his heart was dried up, and his intestines twisted: the generally received opinion was, that he had been poisoned; and the following circumstances contributed to corroborate it. It is an undoubted fact that his most intimate accomplices—a traitor has no friends—administered to him the dose that ended his life. Talleyrand and his friend, or instrument, Dr. Cabarrus, who attended Mirabeau at his last moments, could alone furnish explanations calculated to remove the suspicions which surround the real cause of their hero's death. But it is

to be feared that their secret will remain buried in the tomb which received at the same time the body of Louis XVII. and the name of his poisoner. A report has, however, been published relative to the manner in which Mirabeau was despatched, and the debauch during which he swallowed the deadly draught. Mirabeau, Talleyrand, and four other profligate men, supped with as many women at Robert's restaurant, in the Palais Royal. In the midst of their gaiety, Madame de J—, a bookseller's wife of Paris, entered and reproached Mirabeau with his infidelity in the most violent terms her jealousy could suggest, insisting that he should immediately leave his company and accompany her. After some recriminations, she at length appeared appeased through the intercession of Talleyrand. She then placed herself at table, and the temporary *bonne amie* was dismissed. They then indulged in every kind of excess until four o'clock in the morning. To re-animate the drooping spirits, one of the party, Madame de J—, served coffee. Mirabeau had no sooner drunk his cup than he complained of violent spasms in his stomach. In the hope of alleviating his sufferings he placed himself in a warm bath, and swallowed several cups of milk and cocoa. This beverage, which afforded a momentary relief, contributed to prolong his sufferings, as otherwise the poison he had taken in his coffee would have produced instant death. During his short illness he refused to see Madame de J—, whom he accused of having hastened his death by the *excess of her love*. After his death this woman lived for some time with Talleyrand, who transferred her to Pétion. This circumstance gave rise to the report spread at that time, that Talleyrand had sold the secret of Mirabeau's change to the republican faction. Madame de J— was suspected of having, with the participation and even at the instigation of Talleyrand, been chosen by Pétion, Condorcet, Brissot, Cabarrus, and others, to destroy the most powerful barrier which had opposed to, and could still oppose, a general revolution and the foundation of a universal republic. We have nothing to add to this account, of which we have marked the words in italics, as they are underlined in the original, except to say, that it is evidently a tissue of infamous falsehoods."

No doubt; and therefore repeat and give them currency!

Mad. de F. wished to join Talleyrand in London, and among his dissuasive arguments penned in answer to her letter, we find the annexed opinions of our national character, (1792.)

"Since I have been in this country, my notions of England are very materially altered. You tell me, in your letters, that this nation is generally considered the most generous in Europe; that it possesses more public establishments than any other in favour of suffering humanity; that here alone real industry and modest merit can arrive at fortune. The truth is, that for you England is but a romance and not a reality. No people more generous! Do you know why? Because no people possess so many journals to proclaim their generous actions—none live so much at taverns, where rich fools go regularly to spend some hours of their tedious existence, and purchase, at the price of a few guineas, the title of benefactors of mankind. All here is ostentation, vanity, or a wish to escape *ennui*. The industrious man, it is true, can claim relief from some associations instituted with a view of encouraging and rewarding useful works; but this view is never attained. As to the advancement of

modest merit, it is a fable—the reality no where exists. Modest merit, as every where else, may rise in England, but only when upheld by solid patronage. As to the man who is too honest for intrigue, too bashful to beg, too proud and of too lofty a soul to debase himself before the granters of public favour; and either too proud to flatter, too independent to serve the views of a party, or too patriotic to make himself the instrument of ministers, he will waste his life in expectation, lulled with deceitful hopes, and, as the price of his merit and modesty, obtain, at the end of his career, nothing but poverty and obscurity. My occupations here have been by far too numerous to allow me the necessary time to investigate the subject myself; and therefore I speak more from what I have read than from what I have seen. But it is sufficient to peruse the lives of English authors, poets, and other men of genius in this country, to remain fully persuaded that in no other country is individual merit so much undervalued and so badly rewarded. In no other country has merit been more the object of neglect and contempt, at the same time that it is doomed to all the trials of poverty. Among the writers who have honoured their country by their labours, who have enlightened it or contributed to its pleasures, how many have terminated their glorious career within the walls of a prison or an hospital! Some have died of starvation; others, less patient in their sufferings, have put a period to their life. Believe me, I do not exaggerate. When you are here, I will read you the lives of these illustrious victims of the ingratitude of their country, and we will then visit Westminster Abbey together: you will then admire their sumptuous monuments decorated with pompous epitaphs. Epitaphs! monuments! What an inconsistency, you will say, perhaps! Not so! The same species of stupid pride which consigned these men of genius to neglect and penury whilst living, attaches itself to their names after their death. People had no money to spare to purchase them bread during their existence, but after their death gold is found in profusion to pay the sculptor's labour for monuments, which, while they consecrate the memory of departed genius, chronicle the generosity of the founders; for the latter take especial care to have their names duly inscribed upon these bronze and marble tablets. Such is the real truth respecting this country, where every thing is outward show. As I suspect, between ourselves, that you are swayed more by a feeling of curiosity to visit England than by any real wish to quit France, I have given you these details, in the hope that this complaisance of mine may tend to diminish, if they do not destroy, your anti-patriotic prejudices in favour of this country."

To which the worthy writer adds:

"And now, previously to closing this chapter, we beg to be allowed to form one honest wish. Among the numerous codes published of late years for the instruction of youth, there is still one wanting; and M. de Talleyrand, of all men, is the most capable, if, indeed, he is not the only one, of filling up the hiatus we complain of. His code, or rather treatise, should contain the principles of the art of getting rid of women—an art a hundred times more difficult than the common-place one of seducing them. And as M. de Talleyrand has furnished proofs of his transcendent skill in this art, even towards conjugal legitimacy, we persist in thinking that he owes it to himself and to the world to leave behind him the fruits of his long experience. And, after all, what

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reason have the females whom he has seduced and betrayed to complain? He always treated them as he would have done foreign powers."

Our readers, we are sure, will think we have done enough—perhaps more than enough—to illustrate the nature of this production, as a sample of a portion of the literature of the times. "He lies like truth," was said of some one; but we may reverse the description as applied to these pages, and observe, that if there be any truths in them they are very like lies.

Heath's Picturesque Annual for 1835: Scott and Scotland. By Leitch Ritchie, Esq., author of "Turner's Annual Tour," &c. With Twenty-one highly finished Engravings from original Drawings by George Cattermole, Esq. 8vo. pp. 256. London, Longman and Co.

THE idea of this work is admirable; as admirable as the execution. To those who have never visited Scotland, these exquisite engravings will fix and identify all the wandering fancies conjured up by names familiar to many an hour of imagination and of delight; to those who have visited Scotland, they will bring back to memory every scene under its most attractive and poetic aspect. Scott's monument is still but a hope and a duty; meanwhile, a thousand monuments have been erected by the lovely works of art whose inspiration originated with himself. Scott was the first person of our time who drew attention to the scenic enchantment "of his own romantic land," and who joined with it that human and historic association which would give its own interest to even less natural loveliness: and here praise must end, for with such material and such an assistant, it is quite wonderful what a dull book Mr. Ritchie has made. We look in vain for a novel anecdote, a vivid description, a fine criticism, or a new remark. Mr. Cattermole has gone over the ground with the eye and the feeling of a poet; he has both created and combined. No one can look upon these views without carrying back to Scott's pages a fairy world of distinct and lovely images: our favourite scenes rise visibly before us. Mr. Ritchie, on the contrary, seems to have surrounded himself with guide and note books, and "history made easy." The notes to Scott's own works, Leyden's ballads done into prose, form the substance of these pages, which appear the work of the scissors rather than of the pen: neither can we say much for the philosophical truth of the few original observations with which we are favoured. Speaking of Mary, queen of Scotland, Mr. Ritchie observes, "Mary's life was a series of calamities; and yet, perhaps, were the computation accurately made up, she enjoyed more of happiness than her prosperous rival. Her brief but frequent gleams of sunshine were bright and beautiful; she enjoyed the triumphs of love and beauty; at the most disastrous period of her life she was surrounded by warm and faithful friends; her death was religious, tranquil, almost joyful. Elizabeth, on the contrary, though a great and fortunate queen, was an unhappy woman. Her life was spent in a struggle against nature; and when the dreams of ambition were dispelled by the approach of death, she found that her existence had been a blank. The discovery was made too late. The years that had fled could not be recalled, nor the blood of Essex, which she had spilt; and she closed a loveless, joyless, yet brilliant, existence in melancholy and despair." We think that so useful an existence could

scarcely be called a blank; and as for "the dreams of ambition," which were dispelled by death, they were not dispelled till England had arrived at a point of peace and prosperity unknown in her annals for years. The actual, not the sentimental, is the test wherewith to try Elizabeth.

We perceive that Mr. Ritchie announces a continuation of the present plan. It will be long ere the fruits and flowers of such a soil are exhausted; but we hope for better things from himself next year. He ought to be more critical, more personal, more descriptive. We consider his fear of forestalling Mr. Lockhart's promised work quite superfluous; or, to speak seriously, the nature of the two productions is so obviously opposed, that there is no possibility of one interfering with the other.

We have often expressed our admiration of Mr. Ritchie's talents; but we do not think that he has exerted them in the present instance.

Jennings' Landscape Annual, for 1835. The Tourist in Spain. By Thomas Roscoe. Illustrated from Drawings, by David Roberts, R. Jennings, and Co. London. 1835.

WE have the same complaint to make of this volume as we have of its contemporary, the *Picturesque*, viz. the great inferiority of the literary to the pictorial department—a long, dull, and confused story, embellished with extracts from Carlyle's specimens—part patchwork from history—part from romance. Such is considered meet companion for as lovely a series of engravings as ever united actual beauty and interesting association. It would appear that if ever writer could have subjects fitted to call forth his highest powers, such would be the case in the present instances. The stately hall—the graceful fountain, with all their old remembrances, are brought, as it were, visible to the writer, whose task it is to paint them with words. But Mr. Roscoe has lacked either the inspiration or the power—and his portion is an utter failure. We really do seriously advise the purchasers of this otherwise charming volume to burn the letter-press with all possible speed—and bind up the engravings with Irving's history of Grenada.

The Forget-Me-Not; a Christmas, New Year's, and Birthday Present for 1835. Edited by Frederic Shoberl, Ackermann and Co.

THIS old favourite of the public is, perhaps, the one best adapted for the youthful class to whom it is specially addressed. The literary contents are pleasant and unobjectionable, and the decorations remarkably pretty. We select a graceful little song, by H. F. Chorley.

"Friend, whose smile had ever power
From its chains my soul to free,
Making all a summer bower
What were desert save for thee;
By the love I kept so long,
All unchanged through scorn and wrong,
For thee alone.
Grieve not thou for days of yore,
And remember me no more
When I am gone.
Thou wilt weep, I know, to see
Yonder picture on the wall;
Yonder dulcimer to thee
Often will my song recall:
Hide them both in some dark cell,
Whence may come no saddening spell
Of glance or tone,
Fading memories to restore:
Oh remember me no more
When I am gone!"

The Forget-Me-Not has also a new dress this year—one of rich dark Morocco—a manifest improvement on its former slight silken cover.

Thoughts on Materialism, and on Religious Festivals and Sabbaths. By H. B. Fearon. 8vo. pp. 214. London, 1835. Longman and Co.

WE confess it tries our patience to have to do with a long argument, whether the soul is judged immediately after individual death or at the universal resurrection. What does it signify, seeing that the space between must be an utter void and blank? Far better were it to inquire by what good actions performed in our state of human probation, we could best fit it for its dread tribunal, come when it might, and for everlasting happiness hereafter in another world. But this were too philanthropic for religious sectarianism, which proceeds upon the declaration of old Calvin—"it is nothing to me (said he) what becomes of their souls (*i. e.* the wicked, or those who differed in opinion from him): I will only be responsible for the faithful!"

The discussion relative to the observance of a seventh day, or a Sabbath, is more applicable to our times, when the question is brought forward for legislation; but we really think that much more has been written on this subject also than its importance requires. Man-kind, we do hope, have advanced so much in reason and intellect, as to render it impossible to replunge them into the folly and darkness of antiquity in this respect, as when the Jews "on Friday pared their nails, and whetted their knives, in readiness for the reception of the Sabbath. They taught, that on the Sabbath a horse may have a bridle or a halter to lead, but not a saddle to load him; a tailor must not wear his needle in his sleeve on the Sabbath-day; the lame may use a staff, but the blind may not; they must not rub their shoes on the ground, but against a wall; and if a flea bite on the Sabbath, they might remove it, but not kill it, but a louse they might kill; together with sundry other marvellous niceties, being akin in principle to certain of their Christian fellow-labourers, even after the Protestant Reformation, and in this country. Thus it was preached in Oxfordshire, that to do any servile work or business on the *Lord's day*, was as great a sin as to kill a man, or to commit adultery. In Norfolk it was taught, that to make a feast or dress a wedding-dinner on the *Lord's day*, was as great a sin, as for a father to take a knife and cut his child's throat. In Suffolk it was preached, that to ring more bells than one on the *Lord's day*, was as great a sin as to commit murder!!"

The following is a specimen of Mr. Fearon's argument and style.

"The expediency of a periodical national day of rest, established by the legislature, as a purely civil institution, is a subject of much interest, presenting as it does many weighty considerations to the political economist as well as to the moralist and the purely religious inquirer; and these considerations press with increased force from the admission of the preceding facts, that there is no Scriptural command for the present sanctification of any day whatever. It would probably be difficult to select any large community, by whom a *day of rest* could be more needed than by the inhabitants of London, subject as all classes therein are to the constant wear and tear of body and of mind, induced by their local position, by the ever-active competition arising out of the concentration of knowledge, of capital, of skill, and of the density and extent of the population, and also the pressure of the public burdens. But then, as has been well stated by Dr. Whately, although in support of a conclusion

differing from that which is now submitted, 'I am convinced that the most effectual, as well as the only justifiable means for accomplishing this object, (the observance of a day of rest,) will be found in the placing this duty on its true foundation.' And hence might we not look to the legislature for such regulations in relation to it, as should preserve us from a violation of our personal liberties, and protect us from the puritanical ferocity of spiritual aggression, and the partial legislation of the gloomy, the ill-informed, the fanatical, or the pharisaical? An abstinence from our usual occupations being insured as a political institution, might not the mode of the observance be very safely left to the free choice of the people, when relieved from arbitrary and partial spiritual interdiction and denunciation, and false and impracticable views of religious obligation? Must it necessarily follow, that on such a day recreation and pleasure and enjoyment should be injurious to the public weal, or calculated to lower the national tone of religious and moral feeling? Would not religious communities assemble then as now? Would the believers in the strict perpetuity of the Sabbath forego their creed?

"Might not literary and scientific societies be greatly extended, and amongst all classes, down to the very poorest; and, by their members assembling on this day, with a consciousness that in so doing they were violating neither a human nor a divine law, greatly tend to increase the knowledge, the morality, and the consequent civilisation and religion and happiness of the people? And why should not the British Museum, the National Gallery (when we have one), and other public institutions, be open to the people on Sundays? And would not such cultivation of the public mind tend to wean one class from social pursuits of an injurious tendency, and others from secluded and profitless self-gratification?"

These sentiments, of course, will have their admirers and their opponents; we leave them to the sense of the public.

Memorials of Oxford. Edited by the Rev. James Ingram, D.D., President of Trinity College. Nos. XII. XIII. XIV. XV. 4to. Oxford, 1834, Parker, Slatter, and Graham; London, Tilt.

Our notices of this highly respectable publication have hitherto been confined to that department of the *Gazette* which is devoted to the Fine Arts; but in the twelfth number there is a history of the University Press, which contains matter so interesting to literature, that we are sure the following extracts from it will gratify our general readers.

After describing the introduction of printing into England by Caxton, about the year 1475 and the exercise of the new "mystery" in one of the chapels within Westminster Abbey, Dr. Ingram thus proceeds:—

"Admiration of this novel method of abridging tedious labour, by a rapid and cheap multiplication of copies of such works as were required by the student of every class, would naturally invite attempts (especially by the clergy, who at this period were the sole depositaries and dispensers of all learning) to transfer so valuable an improvement from London to other parts of the kingdom, and to erect printing-presses wheresoever they were likely to prove useful. Within a very few years after Caxton's commencement, this was carried into effect at two places; namely, Oxford and St. Alban's; each of which was locally situated within a reasonable distance

from the metropolis, and in each the clergy were the most efficient patrons and promoters of learning. Oxford was the earlier of the two in practising the 'mystery,' as it was then called; for we have a specimen of Oxford workmanship of the year 1478, if not 1468; while of St. Alban's none is known anterior to 1480. Other towns of England were much slower in providing themselves with presses. We know of nothing earlier than 1509 at York; Cambridge, 1521; Tavistock, 1525; Canterbury, Ipswich, Worcester, Norwich, &c., began to print at periods considerably later. It was naturally to be expected, that Oxford, the seat of learning during so many ages, would view with intense anxiety the development of an art, which was calculated to exercise so important an influence over the whole world; and that the authorities of the university would not be slow in availing themselves of the advantages, which this great discovery was capable of affording to scholars in every department of literature. From the little which now remains, we can form no accurate estimate of the extent to which the art was carried in this university during the fifteenth century; not more than eight or ten specimens of that period being known, and these not works of any particular importance or high character."

"From 1486 we hear no more of the Oxford press or its productions for a period of thirty years; and even then, after the appearance of half-a-dozen books, in 1517, 1518, and 1519, we again meet with a total blank of much longer duration, and are under the necessity of supposing the establishment to have been completely dormant during sixty-five years of the most important transactions both in church and state; namely, from 1520 to 1585. * *

"Late in the reign of Elizabeth, the Earl of Leicester, being then chancellor of the university, had the good sense and spirit to revive and reorganise its typography. At his sole expense a new press was erected; a fit person was specially appointed 'printer to the university;' and in the year 1585 came forth the first-fruits of the establishment, 'Moral Questions upon Aristotle's Ethics,' by John Case, fellow of St. John's; dedicated, with great propriety, to the chancellor. From this time the academical press was kept in constant work. Joseph Barnes, the individual who had been named 'university printer,' laboured with great diligence two and thirty years in his vocation; so that before the close of the sixteenth century he had published between ninety and a hundred pieces by various authors, in English, Latin, and Greek; many of them works of high character, and most respectable in their style of execution. During the troubles of Charles the First, that prince not only found shelter and supplies from this university, even the ancient plate of the colleges being melted down for the use of the mint, but the press was likewise most actively employed in his behalf. While the king resided, and the parliament was holden, at Oxford, numerous pieces in the shape of letters, proclamations, messages, manifestos, &c., immediately relating to the king's affairs, as well as several pamphlets both in verse and prose, written in defence of his cause, were printed here; the university press being then in the hands of Leonard Lichfield, by some of whose family the office was enjoyed till the reign of George the First. After the restoration of Charles the Second, when by the munificence of Archbishop Sheldon the theatre was completed, that splendid building was publicly opened and presented to the university in a solemn convo-

cation on the 9th of July, 1669; and the printing-presses belonging to that body were from this time worked therein; and a room beneath is still used as a warehouse for the books printed there and at the Clarendon press. The university books, therefore, long bore on their title-pages the words, *E Theatro Sheldoniano*. Of this establishment, the first-fruits appeared in a Pindaric ode in praise of the theatre and its founder, by Corbet Owen, of Christ Church, which was publicly recited at the above-named convocation; and during a period of more than forty years there was a constant succession of excellent editions of works in various languages, the productions of eminent scholars in all departments of literature, which are too well known to the world to need particular description. The typographical execution, and the extraordinary accuracy of these editions, have met with the highest commendations; and it must be allowed, that some of the volumes, especially the copies printed on large paper, are most elegant specimens of the art. Still the university was not provided with a specific building for the uninterrupted and exclusive exercise of its printing business, now greatly increased by the rising demands of the public; for the body of the theatre being designed and used for other purposes, a small portion of it only was available for the combined purposes of press-room and warehouse. This uncomfortable state of things continued until the reign of Queen Anne; when the copyright of the Earl of Clarendon's History of the Rebellion being presented to the university, the profits arising from the sale of copies were applied towards the erection of that stately fabric situate on the eastern side of the Sheldon theatre, which, in just commemoration of that illustrious statesman, was denominated the 'Clarendon Press.' The whole typographical apparatus having been removed to this more commodious building, the new printing-house commenced its operations in the month of October 1713; and we may safely appeal to its numerous volumes, which for more than a century have been in the hands of the reading public, in support of the assertion, that no similar establishment ever reflected greater credit on a seat of learning, or a kingdom at large, than this is allowed to have done on Oxford and on the British empire. During one hundred and eighteen years, the Clarendon press was constantly and beneficially employed under academical direction; one-half of the building being appropriated to the printing of Bibles, Prayer-books, &c., agreeably to the privilege conferred on the two universities and the king's printer, and the other half devoted to works of general literature, of which it poured forth an abundant supply. At length the enormous and still-growing demand for books of every kind, which forms so distinguishing a feature of the present age, created a necessity for again enlarging the effective powers of the academic press, and compelled its directors to provide a more ample receptacle for all their printing machinery and stores, now so much increased. As none was found suitable to the purpose, the university most judiciously applied such funds as the press itself, in a series of years, had accumulated, to the erection of a capacious and handsome pile of building in the north-western suburb of the city. This now bears the appellation of the 'University Printing-house;' at which the entire business of its printing has been carried on since the month of September, 1830. * *

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eleven of its members, including the vice-chancellor and proctors for the time being, who are called "Delegates of the Press." These direct and regulate all its operations, without other interference; unless any special order be given by convocation, to which all delegates are responsible; and by their careful superintendence of its productions, they contribute to render it a most efficient instrument of diffusing true religion and sound learning to all parts of the world, wheresoever the English language has found its way. The fidelity and accuracy of the books printed under their management being generally acknowledged, and their style of execution being highly creditable to all parties concerned, it appears needless to call attention to those points. But the reader will form to himself a very imperfect estimate of the value and importance attached to the Oxford press, who permits himself to look only at its immediate effects on its own resident members, and regards it merely as an instrument for providing a ready and correct supply of books for academical study. While it satisfactorily effects this, it also performs much more important functions. It exercises a salutary influence over the whole press of Great Britain; stimulating it by the force of its example, and kindling a spirit of generous emulation; and furnishes immense supplies of the Holy Scriptures, with a rapidity commensurate with the daily increasing wants of the public, and with a correctness for which every candid judge and pious Christian will not fail to be thankful.

The plates, by Le Keux, in these four numbers, principally illustrate "The University Press," "Merton College," and "Oriel College." They are of the same unostentatious but satisfactory character as their predecessors.

MACARIUS'S TRAVELS: PART III.

[Fifth Notice: the COSSACKS.]

WITH PART III. We continue our notice of Kiof—we are there. The church of St. Sophia is fine; and the story of pictures (if we could be sure of their execution) would induce us to fancy that superlative productions of art adorned the Cossack land in a manner extraordinarily great, and wonderfully early:—

"To the left of the picture of our Lord is a painting of St. Sophia, the work of an able and ingenious master. The church is depicted with its pillars in the midst of its court; and under its foundations is a kind of vault. On the top is the Messiah; and the Holy Ghost is descending on it in rays of light. Under it is a picture of hell; at the mouth of which is the Cashidiari, with a large nose, holding in his hand a bow and arrows. There are near him many Persians, in their turbans and peculiar dresses, armed with bows and arrows, which they are shooting at the holy edifice. There is also a body of Franks, in their caps and uniforms; pointing their muskets and cannon against it, with all the art of war. * * * In this city are found many excellent Cossack painters, skilful masters of their art, who have many ingenious inventions for taking exact portraits of the human face, and are very clever at depicting the torments of our Lord, in their several stages, as we shall hereafter have occasion more particularly to mention. And what grief is in the heart of every Pole, both great and small, and what regret, for the loss of this city of Kiof, which was formerly under their rule, and was his chief residence! and the whole city was inhabited by their grandees, to whom and to the rich Jews all these handsome

palaces and magnificent houses and gardens belonged."

Speaking in earnest, this last passage is of singular importance to the history of the fine arts. What was their condition in the most civilised parts of Europe at the period we have this account of them in a country, up almost to our day, called savage? Well, the arts had localities and cultivation where we did not suppose: so had coxcombry; for we read:—

"In this district the grandees are numerous, and their trains are great; and these grandees of Kiof carry in their hands staves of the bamboo cane, of considerable thickness, and others of different kinds; as do also the inferior lords and rich men."

Only look at the whipper-snappers about London at the present time; and with their bits of bamboos, rattans, black-thorns, or three-penny twigs (bought from against some wall, from some Jew), and you might fancy they were "grandees," or "inferior lords and rich men." It is likely they are only dandies, instead of grandees, and shopmen instead of rich men. But we are done with the Cossacks, and, at the end of two years (travelling in those times not being so rapid as since steam and patent axle-trees were invented), we beg leave to enter Muscovy, a matter not easily done then or now, without a considerable quantity of surveillance. The Muscovites, upon the whole, shewed themselves worthy of a visit from the Patriarch of Aleppo; for though war and plague distracted the country, the mighty Emperor Alexius, when they did get to see him at Moscow, made some recompense for their previous detentions. Previous to this, however, they were entertained by the voivoda at Potiblia, and the ceremonies are thus described:—

"Presently we approached the voivoda himself; who, as soon as he perceived us at some distance, dismounted from his horse, and the patriarch at the same time alighted from his coach; and to him the voivoda made a first and second prostration, and at the third struck his head on the ground, as is always the custom with them. Upon this the patriarch signed a blessing over him, in the form of a cross, after the usage of the benediction of the Muscovites; that is, he raised his hand in the lines of a cross, and then formed it on his face and shoulders and breast; and the voivoda kissed his crossier, and afterwards his right hand. In like manner did the patriarch with all the voivoda's nobles and attendants, this being the ceremonial of the benediction in this country; and the more especially as they are unacquainted with that pontifical blessing which is used to be dispensed to the people at a distance. Here the prelate must beat his fingers on them, that they may be certified of the reality. Now observe the faith, humility, and piety of these men, to whom it would be fitting and in the course of their duty to humble themselves so if they met the emperor instead of us; but that they should in our respect throw themselves on the ground, and kneel down in the mud, was truly admirable, dress too as they were in high-priced robes, made of beautiful Angora fleeces or cloths, with broad collars of heavy gold lace of great value, and knobs or buttons of the same material, from the neck down to the skirt; which latter kind of habit is also worn by the common people. The neck-buttons of the shirt of the voivoda and his attendants were large pearls, of the size of a vetchling, round and white, like beads cut from marble; and there were also some in the crown of their calpacks, which are of red or rose-coloured cloth. Then

they granted each other condonation; and after many salutations, and an abundant expression of mutual friendship, our lord the patriarch having re-entered his coach, and the voivoda remounted his horse, they moved forward, with the attendants preceding and following them; and the troops before mentioned, displaying the uniform elegance of their shapes and dresses, both led the van and closed the rear, until we came near the town. Here the priests in their copes, and the deacons in their *surplices*, came out in great numbers to meet us, carrying in their hands their thuribles and banners, and their images adorned with pearls, and their crosses and large lanterns. The number of the priests was six-and-thirty, and with them were four deacons in copes. The monks, in their large cowls and long cassocks, and girt with their belts, were still more numerous."

At the entertainment which ensued, we are told:—"There was fish of various kinds, boiled and roast; and many kinds of it fried in paste with stuffing, so varied, that we never in all our lives saw any thing equal to it. There were also several sorts of fish pounded after the bones had been removed, and moulded into shapes of ducks and fowls, roast and fried; likewise various kinds of puddings and dumplings, and so forth, made with eggs and cheese. The sauces were all compounded of the choicest vegetables; and in them were saffron and the most delicate of the sweet-scented herbs and spices; in short, the viands consisted of every thing that might be looked for from a royal kitchen. Among the vessels were cups of silver gilt, filled with a variety of spirits, and different wines from England. Then there was a liquor made from cherries, resembling syrup, of most delicious flavour and exquisite fragrance, served with candied lemon; all imported from the country of the Franks. As for the barrels of beer and mead, they were many and large; and were furnished to us as plentifully as though they had been filled with plain water."

Speaking of the importations and trade with England, among other states, the author says:—

"It should be observed, that on no part of the frontier of this whole empire of Muscovy is there any custom of taking toll on merchandise, even in the smallest sum; but the sovereign, on the contrary, in return for the insignificant present made to him by the merchants, gives them princely gifts of sables, and so forth; and appoints them a regular pension, which lasts until the time of their departure for their own country. I am here speaking of the Greek merchants; but in the port of the Archangel they take toll from the Frank ships, at the rate of ten piastres in a hundred. Likewise from the Muscovite merchants, who pass from one province to another in the course of their traffic, they take a like toll; for the police established in this great empire is admirable. Its sovereign has no occasion for merchants to come to him from the side of Turkey to purchase his sables and other furs; which they do, it is supposed, to the extent of a million ducats yearly; because he is continually receiving embassies from the country of the shah, that is, from the country of the Kizilbash, which come to him in ships laden with rich presents and offerings worth thousands of pieces of gold. These they give him; and he requites their generosity with his most valuable sables, rather exceeding than falling short of the price of their wares. In like manner come embassies to him from the country of the Nemsas, or Germans. But the richest of all the Franks, the English, come in thousands to the port called of the Archangel, with the valuable

manufactures of their country; and import also wine, oil, lemons, &c.; taking furs, &c. in exchange."

Of the climate and its effects, the traveller remarks:—

"It may be here noted, that we saw not a single person, either in the country of the Cossacks or in Moscow, afflicted with blindness, or lumbago, or leprosy, or sick in any way; unless there was here and there to be seen among the grandes some one whose feet were aching with the pain of the gout. As long as we were in any part of these regions, no salt sweats ever came out in our fingers; and our hair, which used to be crisp and harsh, here became soft, like the silk of Endor."

After a long stay in the provinces, the necessity of which they deeply lament, the mission at length set out for the capital; and the journey does not seem to have been peculiarly agreeable:—

"We calculated (says our amusing author), that from Antioch to the city of Moscow is one hundred and twenty days' journey, to travel it day by day without intermission. We did not get over these fifteen versts till near evening; and were cursing our souls from very fatigue, and saying, 'This is but fifteen;—what, in the name of Heaven! is to be done with the hundred and sixty-five that remain?' when relief and consolation came to us, by our meeting with an interpreter acquainted with the Greek and Russian, a respectable elderly man, sent from the court of the Patriarch of Moscow and the emperor's lieutenant, to superintend the embarkation of our lord the patriarch in a state barge on the River Oka, near the aforementioned Kalokha; thence to travel in tranquillity and comfort to a stone-built fortress named *Kalomna*, well known as the see of the bishopric of that name, in the vicinity of Moscow, there to remain until the plague should cease."

"In this town all the principal inhabitants, from the voivode to the lowest of the merchants, used to make to our lord the patriarch presents of fine yellow melons, and of trays full of such apples, that we blessed the Creator at the sight of their beauty and size, and for their smell, and colour, and taste: they had cheeks that were some red and some white; and there were some that were streaked with red and white, the latter colour being as pure as snow: their rind was of the thinnest; and their colour and taste were both of them finer than those of the Syrian apples. In regard to the melons, as we have already said, they were admirable."

Exile to Siberia, elsewhere called "the Land of Darkness," is frequently mentioned; and among other cases, a bishop of Kalomna, who refused to subscribe to some new articles of the church propounded by the emperor and the Patriarch of Moscow. For this offence, we are informed—

"The emperor and the patriarch immediately sent him into banishment, together with his monks and servants, and all belonging to him, to the interior of Siberia, a journey of one thousand five hundred versts, on the shores of the sea called *Oukaiak*, which encircles the globe. Here are convents, erected since ancient times, for the reception of such exiles; in one of which the messengers of vengeance deposited him, to lead a life to which death would be preferable, so great is the gloominess of the situation and so execrable the tenour of living, amidst perpetual darkness and hunger; for bread there is none. From this place all escape or release for him is impossible; and this eter-

nal banishment he well deserves. Such regulations, and such strict enforcement of them, are worthy of applause."

Such were the ideas of good government and the enforcement of church discipline in those times. The latter, indeed, in the score of devotion, was perpetual and most fatiguing:—

"Most of their days here, in this country of Moscow, are festivals: for on most days the great bells appropriated to the Sundays and great festivals are rung for some distinguished saint's day, and especially for their new saints, as we shall explain hereafter; whereas, in Moldavia and Wallachia, and the country of the Cossacks, they are rung only on the eve of Sunday or of a great festival. Nothing used to affect me so much as the united clang of all the bells on these evenings, and in the middle of the subsequent nights. The earth shook with their vibrations, and the drone of their voice, like thunder, ascended to the skies. And what should hinder this great nation from observing these frequent solemnities, since, by the comfort of their circumstances, and the affluence of their wealth, all their days are fair-days and festivals? and on no day in the whole year is the celebration of mass interrupted in any of their churches, but every person, whether man, woman, or child, regularly attends the church in his own parish, each bringing with him one candle or more, with a copeck, which is their piaster, stuck in it for the service of the altar. They never conclude the office in any of their churches, nor do any of the congregation retire, until the third hour is past; and in the mean time they are all fasting."

"For ourselves (adds the wearied priest), we were jaded with the length of their masses and prayers; and scarcely ever retired till we were ready to drop, from the weakness of our legs and backs, being literally crucified with exertion. But it is for the Almighty to dispose of us as he thinks fit."

But the relics were some recompense, and one could hardly tire in the atmosphere they sanctified; for, "first, there is a large gilt cross, adorned with large pearls, and inlaid with a piece of the wood of the true cross: then among the cases is one covered with gold, containing a golden sun, on which is painted the figure of St. George: within it is a portion of his body, real, and shining like gold, and as hard and plump as a pebble. There is a tooth of John the Baptist; a finger of Andrew the Apostle; some bones of the first deacon Stephen, of Daniel the Prophet, of Panteleimon the Martyr, Artemius the Martyr, St. Theodorus, and St. James, Euthemius the Great, John Chrysostom, Proclus, and Andrew the Military Officer. All these relics have their edges gilt, and their names written on them."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Sea-Boy, and other Poems, by R. Ruess, of Blackheath. Pp. 132. (London, Harvey and Darton.)—A modest, and naturally anxious preface, would induce us to speak kindly of this volume, which is replete with good feeling; but truth compels us to class its poetry with that mediocre description which, in the present time, comes, goes, and is forgotten.

Reformed Parliament, and other Poems, by Two of the People. Pp. 78. (London, Steill.)—John and Mary Saunders own the honours of this proof of the diffusion of rhyming among the lower orders. It is a bit of as good radicalism as is usually found in the unstamped penny-worths for the edification of unionists, &c. Take a specimen:—

"The age, that sees the throne of Alfred filled
With hen-pecked kings, the distaff formed to wield;
And grinning, asks their use? then at their nod
Would do what 'twould be damned ere do for God."

Metrical Exercises upon Scripture Texts and Miscellaneous Poems, by Harriet Rebecca King. Pp. 168. (London, Smith, Elder, and Co.)—A series of religious poems written with much simplicity, and animated by the sincere expression of piety. A long and respectable list

of subscribers attests the respect and consideration which is felt for the writer.

Letters and Essays in Prose and Verse, by Richard Sharp. (London, Moxon.)—The words "third edition" confirm the favourable opinion we expressed of this sterling little volume on its first appearance.

Hume and Smollett's History of England; Volney's Edition; Vol. IX.—A biographical sketch of Smollett is prefixed to this vol., which brings down our history to the reign of Queen Anne.

Cattermole and Stebbing's Sacred Classics; Vol. X. (London, Hatchard and Son.)—The tenth volume gives us a portion of Beveridge's Private Thoughts, and forms no unworthy sequel to the judicious selections which have preceded it. The introductory essay is by Mr. Stebbing, and of a highly religious turn.

Disquisitions on the Antiquary Spirit which produced the Reformation; its Secret Influence on the Literature of Europe, &c. &c., by G. Rossetti, Professor of Italian Literature in King's College. Translated from the Italian, by Miss Caroline Ward. 2 vols. (London, Smith, Elder, and Co.)—In this work a good deal of curious light is thrown upon literature, especially in Italy, as it emerged from the dark ages; but as much of the argument is polemical, we shall content ourselves with referring to the general interest which Mr. Rossetti has imparted to his subject, and with saying, that the translation does infinite credit to Miss C. Ward.

A Review of the Chandos Peerage Case, &c., by G. F. Belz, Esq. Lancaster Herald. 8vo. pp. circ. 250. (London, Bentley.)—A refutation, by the Lancaster Herald, of Sir Egerton Brydges' claim to the title of Baron Chandos, of Sudeley, and one which imputes all sorts of falsifications to the documents produced in its support. The question is, certainly, of greater individual than general interest; and we only notice the discussion, to bring it before those who may desire to read a strong case put in pretty strong language, and pithily argued by Mr. Belz.

Traits of Science, and of Invention, by Barbara Willett. Pp. 204. (London, Whitaker and Co.)—A volume well adapted to the use of young people; both as calculated to give information and to stimulate inquiry. The origin of letters, writing, and printing, of navigation, gunpowder, clocks, &c. &c. are the subjects introduced; and we recommend this slight volume as a pleasant though grave variety to the many pretty presents with which our literature at present abounds.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Fourth Meeting, Edinburgh: Journal.

No. V.

IN the absence of a correct report of the communication made by Mr. Pentland to the Section of Natural History, upon his researches and discoveries in High Peru, we have much pleasure in being able to give a condensed narrative of that gentleman's travels, combining the very interesting results with which he has enriched geography and natural history. We do so with the more pleasure, as those travels, performed now some years back, from their not having been brought before the public, have never obtained that attention which they deserve, and may, indeed, be considered as almost unknown.

Mr. Pentland was some time a pupil of Cuvier at Paris, and accustomed himself to geological research in the south of France, and in parts of Italy. Here he also practised barometric observations. He was preparing himself for a scientific expedition to the East Indies when he was joined to the British embassy to Peru. Through the recommendations of the Baron de Humboldt, who wrote upon the occasion to Mr. Canning, he was provided with instruments to carry to the elevated and little known table-land of Titicaca. Shortly after his arrival at Lima, in 1826, he began his exploration of the provinces of High Peru, and proceeded by Arequipa to Puno, traversing the western chain of the Andes. He coursed through the provinces of Lampa and Puno, and the banks of the celebrated lake of Titicaca, whose surface includes more than 6000 square miles. He visited the islands of this great lake, and of that of Coata, which are covered with the ruins of the edifices of the ancient civilisation of Peru. He also visited the more recent but still more surprising remains of Tia Huanaxo. He passed a few weeks in the rich town of La Paz, and thence he went, by Oruro

and the valley of Desaguadero, to Potosi, Tupiza, and Tarija. He afterwards came back to the north, to Chuquisaca. After remaining two months in this latter town, and after having explored the provinces of Chayantes, Yauriparais, &c., he went to Cochabamba, and thence, by crossing the eastern cordillera in the neighbourhood of Paria, he came back to the province of Pacajes and to La Paz. It was his wish to have explored the districts of Apolabamba and of Larecaga; but, having received from the government orders to depart for Europe, he a second time crossed the western branch of the Andes, between La Paz and Tacna. He quitted Peru in the month of May 1827.

Mr. Pentland made at Lima and Callao a considerable series of observations, to determine the diurnal and horary variations of the barometer at these two stations. He also made, by means of the barometer, the measurement of several hundred points of elevation; and he took trigonometrical measurements of the height of several peaks, whose elevation exceeds that of the Chimborazo by several hundred fathoms, though, to the present day, it has been considered as the most elevated point of the new continent.

Eastern Chain of the Andes.—The eastern chain separates the elevated table-land which contains the lake of Titicaca from the immense plains or *steppes* of Chiquitos and Moxos. Its rivers bring with them auriferous sand: hence the name of El Dorado to the little valley of Tipiani, in the district of Larecaga. From the 14th to the 17th degree of latitude the chain attains without interruption the inferior limits of eternal snow; many of its peaks surpass the height of 20,000 feet; and it contains the most elevated summit of the Cordilleras which have hitherto been attempted to be measured. Those of Illimani and of Sorata, which are covered with eternal snow, surpass all the gigantic peaks of Columbia, of Chimborazo, of Antisana, and Cayamba.

The Illimani is situated in the Bolivian province of La Paz, 20 leagues E.S.E. of the town of that name. Long. W. between 67° and 68°, and S. lat. 16° 35' and 16° 39'. Like the Chimborazo in another chain, it forms the southern extremity of the eastern chain of the Andes to which it belongs. Its summit is divided into four peaks, arranged in a direction pretty nearly from north to south, or in that of the entire chain. Mr. Pentland only succeeded in measuring the most northerly of these peaks. He found its elevation to be 24,000 feet above the level of the sea, or 12,000 feet above the town of La Paz. But one of its more southerly peaks appeared to Mr. Pentland more elevated by 250 feet. The highest point to which Mr. Pentland arrived himself, in climbing the Illimani, was 19,000 feet. He could not reach a greater height, not so much on account of the rarefaction of the atmosphere, as on account of the number of rents which occur in the glaciers which must be crossed. There came on, besides, a violent storm, which threw clouds of snow into his face; so that he was obliged to relinquish the hope he had conceived of carrying his barometer to the summit of the Illimani.

The mountain is composed of transition slates and of mica slates, traversed by numerous quartzose veins containing auriferous pyrites and native gold. Some of these veins, though at an elevation of 17,000 feet, have been worked by the ancient Peruvians long before the arrival of European colonists.

In the northern region of the eastern chain

of the Cordillera, almost in the centre of that part of its crest which is covered with snow, and from the centre of a group of *nevados*, rises the mountain of Sorata, under 15° 30' S. lat. This peak belongs, like the Illimani, to the province of La Paz, and is situated to the east of the village of Socrata, the most remarkable place of the district of Larecaga. Its height is 25,000 feet.

Between the parallel of the Illimani and that of 21°, the eastern Cordillera does not offer a single summit that attains the limit of eternal snow, though several rise to 16,000 feet, and even higher, since the Cerro de Potosi, which belongs to this portion of the eastern chain, has 16,080 feet. At 21° 15' occurs the Nevado de Chosolque, at twelve leagues N.W. of Tupiza; but south of that latitude Mr. Pentland met with several peaks covered with eternal snow.

Western Chain of the Andes.—With respect to the western chain of the Andes, the highest summit which it presents is a cone, or rather a dome, of trachyte, which rises majestically above the valley of Chuquibamba to the north of Arequipa, and nearly at the point where that chain begins to separate itself from the eastern chain. This mountain attains a height of 22,000 feet.

To the east and north-west of the town of Arequipa occurs the valley of the same name, surrounded by mountains covered with eternal snow. The central peak of this group of *nevados* is the celebrated volcano of Arequipa. Its elevation exceeds 18,000 feet.

More to the south, between the parallels of Arica and of the Rio de Loa, are several volcanic cones of a great height. The volcano of Guataviti, in the Bolivian province of Carangas, rises above a table-land of sandstone, which contains much copper. The cone, which attains the region of eternal snow, offers the most imposing aspect by its regular and almost geometric form: vapour and smoke are constantly issuing from it.

The great chain of the Peruvian Andes divides itself, between the 14th and 20th degrees of south latitude, into two longitudinal branches. These two branches are separated from one another by a great valley, or rather by a plateau, whose surface is elevated 2033 *toises* above the level of the sea, and whose northern extremity comprises the lake of Titicaca. The shores and the islands of this lake are remarkable for having been the seat of the ancient civilisation of Peru, and the central point of the empire of the Incas. The western chain separates the bed of the lake of Titicaca, and the valley of Desaguadero forms the coast of the southern ocean, and presents a great number of volcanoes in actual activity. Its geognostic structure is essentially volcanic, whilst the eastern chain is entirely formed of secondary and transition mountains.

Between the parallel of Saluma and that of Tacora (17° 51') there are several other volcanic mountains, some of which attain an elevation of 20,000 feet. The village of Tacora is the most elevated group of habitations upon the earth (2232.2 *toises*). It is situated in a little valley which separates two of these enormous cones.

Mr. Pentland mentions, as a characteristic feature of the physical constitution of the ancient inhabitants of southern America, their inclination to elevate themselves upon the highest parts of the chain of the Andes, and the faculty which they had of executing mining labours in these regions. The Cerro de Desaguadero, situated upon the northern slope of the

Illimani, is composed of transition slates, in which an immense quantity of veins and of transported auriferous quartz is met with; the north-western part is cut off almost vertically: it is, nevertheless, covered with little excavations, whence the Peruvians obtained a great quantity of auriferous earth long before the conquest of the Spaniards. Several of these artificial excavations (*bocas minas*) are met with at a height of 16,600 feet. In other parts of High Peru, strangers are equally struck with the astonishing elevation at which mining excavations were carried on. All the Cerro de Potosi is at 16,080 feet of elevation; and yet that mountain is covered, up to its summit, with wells and galleries. The entry of the gallery of San Miguel and of Pomare, in the Peruvian province of Lampa, is still more elevated: it is close to the inferior limit of perpetual snows.

The highest habitations of men, between the 14th and the 18th degrees of south latitude, are more than 15,500 feet in elevation; and little villages and post-houses are found up to 14,400 feet. Mr. Pentland mentions the post-house of Poti and that of Apo. Many villages are up to 14,275 feet in height. The most populous towns of High Peru, such as Potosi, Puno, Chucuito, are above 12,600 feet in elevation. The most elevated habitations in the globe occur, then, in these countries.

The flowering plants (*Phænogamous*) which Mr. P. found at the greatest elevation, belong to the grasses (*Graminæ*) and thistle tribe (*Compositæ*). Upon the slope of the Illimani they attain an elevation of 15,500 feet, and upon the Cerro de Potosi, 15,700 feet: lands are cultivated to an elevation of 14,000 feet. Rye, potatoes, maize, kidney-beans, and even the barley of the old world, are reared in abundance upon the shores and islands of the lake of Titicaca, at 12,760 feet of elevation. The maize of these islands has much reputation.

In his very interesting *vivâ voce* communications to the meeting at Edinburgh, Mr. Pentland stated, that all about the lake Titicaca he had discovered innumerable tombs, hundreds of which he had entered and examined. These monuments were of a grand species of design and architecture, resembling Cyclopean remains, and not unworthy of the arts of ancient Rome or Greece. They therefore betokened a high condition of civilisation; but the most extraordinary fact belonging to them was their invariably containing the mortal remains of a race of men, of all ages, from the earliest infancy to maturity and old age, the formation of whose *crania* seemed to prove that they were an extinct race of natives, who had inhabited Upper Peru above a thousand years ago, and differing from any mortals now inhabiting our globe. The site is between the 14° and 19° of north latitude, and the skulls found (of which specimens are both in London and Paris) are remarkable for their extreme extent behind the occipital foramen, inasmuch that it could hardly be believed their owners could move in a perpendicular position. For, two-thirds of the weight of the cerebral mass must have been deposited in this wonderfully elongated cerebellum; and as the bones of the face were also much elongated, the general appearance must have been rather that of some of the ape family than of human beings. In the tombs, as in those of Egypt, parcels of grain were left beside the dead; and it was another singular circumstance that the maize, or Indian corn, so left, was different from any that now existed in the country.

Mr. Pentland entered into details to shew

that the extraordinary forms thus brought to the light of day from their long sojourn could not be attributed to pressure, or any external force, similar to that still employed by many American tribes; and adduced, in confirmation of this view, the opinions of Cuvier, of Gall, and of many other celebrated naturalists and anatomists. On these grounds he was of opinion, that they constituted the population of these elevated regions before the arrival of the present Indian population, which, in its physical characters, its customs, &c. offered many analogies with the Asiatic races of the old world. He also took occasion to defend M. Humboldt from some accusations of inaccuracy in his measurements of the heights of several points in the Andes of the neighbourhood of Quito, contained in Colonel Hall's paper read on a previous day.

Dr. Adam offered a few observations on this statement, and particularly contended, from the insertion of the jaw in the specimens of these *crania* which Mr. Pentland had presented to the college of surgeons in London, and which he (Dr. A.) had anatomically inspected, that their formation must have been produced by pressure, as in many other cases well known to naturalists.

Mr. Pentland answered these remarks, and still expressed his conviction that the race of people was naturally peculiar, and had vanished from the face of the earth. He mentioned some instance of a similar skull having been discovered in an individual (we believe) in Germany; and which had not been produced by artificial means.

Mr. Greville wished to ask Mr. P. if, when Spurzheim expressed his opinion on the subject, he had allowed that civilisation and refinement were likely to proceed from a race with skulls of such a formation—a formation in which, according to phrenology, all the qualities of a very opposite nature must be very largely developed.

Mr. Pentland replied, good-humouredly, that all he remembered was, that Spurzheim thought they had the organs of constructiveness large. (*A laugh*). This might account for their splendid tombs.

Before concluding our notice of this discussion we should say, that the potatoes in these upper regions are bitter; yet they are probably the original stock of all our varieties.

Still looking to the communications which possessed the greatest popular, as well as scientific interest, we have now the pleasure of furnishing a correct account of those for which the Association were indebted to its Vice-President, and which excited great attention. Of these important papers no report has yet been published. On *Thursday*, the first, by Sir David Brewster, on a remarkable specimen of amber, was read. This specimen, which was found in Ava, was sent home by George Swinton, Esq., whose liberal exertions to promote the interests of science are so well known. Its size was equal to that of a child's head, and the specific gravity of the mass greater than that of water; but the fact which made the specimen so interesting was that of its being intersected in all directions with mineral veins, which Sir David Brewster found to be carbonate of lime, having extracted from the thickest of them a perfect rhomb of that mineral. These veins varied from the 100th to the 20th of an inch in thickness. The phenomena exhibited by this specimen throws much light on the origin of amber.

Friday.—Sir David Brewster communicated to the Mathematical and Physical Section a

verbal account of the results of a series of experiments on the structure of the surfaces of natural and artificial crystals as developed by the action of different solvents. The condition of the surface, when thus acted upon, was displayed in beautiful and symmetrical figures, formed by the reflection of a luminous image. These figures were gradually developed, according to regular laws, by the continued action of the solvent; and, what was very remarkable, the particles of the body thus removed were replaced in the same order by plunging it into a saturated solution of its own substance: the geometrical figure went backwards through all its changes, till it assumed its primitive condition of a luminous point reflected from the restored plane surface of the crystal. Sir David Brewster described the effects produced by the action of different solvents upon the same crystal, and also the effects produced by the mechanical abrasion of the surfaces of minerals. He exhibited likewise the figures produced by the surfaces of topazes from the Brazils, which had been acted upon by powerful solvents when in the bowels of the earth; and he inferred from these various facts that crystallised bodies have a much more complex structure than has been supposed in any existing theory of the formation of crystals.

A letter from Sir David Brewster to Dr. Hope, the president of the chemical and mineralogical section, was read, on the optical characters of minerals. Having learned that some observations had been made, during a discussion at this section on a preceding day, which tended to discredit the value of optical characters in mineralogy, Sir David Brewster addressed this letter to the president, for the purpose of placing the high value of optical characters in a clearer light. He mentioned, in illustration of his views, a series of experiments which he had made on *chabasie*, in several specimens of which he was able to detect a series of gradual and successive changes which had been going on in the condition of the solution in which the crystals were forming. These changes exhibited themselves in a successive diminution of the double refraction from a positive state, in succeeding layers, till it disappeared altogether, and became negative beyond a neutral line, from which the double refraction again gradually increased. Such specimens, which yielded readily to the analysis of the optical observer, must, as he observed, greatly perplex both the chemist and the crystallographer, who, if their methods were sufficiently correct, would have probably found in one crystal twenty layers, differing in their chemical composition and in their primitive form. This communication excited some discussion, in which Dr. Thomson of Glasgow, Mr. Johnston, and Sir David Brewster, took a part.

Sir David also communicated to the Natural History Section a verbal account, which he illustrated by figures, of some curious results which he had obtained respecting the structure of feathers. Dr. Paley and Dr. Roget had, as he mentioned, explained generally the beautiful mechanism by which nature enables the tender fabric of the vane of the feather to resist the action of the air, and to repair itself when divided. By the use of very fine microscopes of garnet and sapphire, Sir David succeeded in developing the minute structures by which the preceding mechanism operates; and he particularly described a singular spring, consisting of a number of slender fibres laid together, all of which resisted the division of the feather or the separation of its fibrils, and

which again closed themselves together when their separation had been forcibly effected. He described the difference between down and feather, the former being intended either for ornament or warmth, and the latter for resisting the action of the air when a continued fabric was necessary. These observations were made chiefly on the large feathers from the wing of the vulture; but, generally speaking, the structure is the same in other feathers, though with various modifications. The curious property preserved by the fibrils of hooking themselves together when they had been separated, was mentioned as a singular provision of nature, though the author felt some difficulty in giving a perfectly satisfactory explanation of the manner in which it was effected.

Bringing the particulars of the close more minutely than in our first report before our readers, we may add here:

It was announced to the meeting that invitations to the British Association had been received from the Bristol Institution, the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool, the Royal Dublin Society, the Royal Irish Academy, the Geological Society of Dublin, and the University of Dublin,—that the general committee, having considered the circumstances under which the invitations were brought forward, had unanimously resolved that the invitations of the constituted scientific bodies in Dublin should be accepted, and the next meeting be held in Dublin, on Monday, August 10, 1835. The thanks of the Association were voted to the Bristol Institution and the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool.

The officers and council appointed for the ensuing year were then announced, viz.

President elect, Dr. Lloyd.

Vice-Presidents elect, { Lord Oxmantown.

{ Rev. W. Whewell, F.R.S.

Secretaries for the Dublin Meeting, Prof. Hamilton,

Prof. Lloyd.

Treasurer to the Dublin Meeting, Dr. Orpen.

Treasurer to the Association, John Taylor, F.R.S.

General Secretary, Rev. W. V. Harcourt, F.R.S.

Assistant Secretary, Professor Phillips.

The Secretaries for the Edinburgh Meeting were requested to continue their valuable services until the Dublin Meeting.

The council consists of—

Trustees, Prof. Babbage, Mr. Murchison, Mr. J. Taylor.

Members elected, Prof. Airy, Dr. R. Brown, Mr. Ben-

tham, Dr. Buckland, Mr. W. Clift, Mr. Drid-

water, Mr. S. Christie, Mr. Greenough, Dr. Hodge-

kin, Mr. Lubbock, Dr. Roget, Rev. G. Peacock,

Mr. Rennie, Mr. Varrell.

Ex officio Members, the Officers of the Association.

Secretaries to the Council, Dr. Turner, Mr. J. Yates.

Various recommendations of special subjects for inquiry were sanctioned by the general committee, and ordered to be printed in the next volume of the publications of the Association.

We have alluded to the proceedings of the German meetings, and as the annexed bears upon a subject on which the *Lit. Gazette* has bestowed some attention, we have translated it from the quarto account of these transactions.

Extracts from the Report of the Proceedings of the Meeting of German Naturalists and Physicians at Breslau, Sept. 1833.—The fifth and last general meeting was held on the 25th of September. Dr. Schiel, of Vienna, spoke on the influence of natural philosophy on the natural sciences: after which M. von Frorieb brought forward an interesting proposition for the establishment of an universal statistics of medicine. He was followed by Dr. Gehel, who produced a paper, entitled, "On the theory and practice of medicine," but which was only a panegyric on homopathy; and, being more piquant than scientific, obtained little approbation.

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Medico-Surgical Section: Seventh Meeting, 26th Sept.—The medical section of the Assembly of Naturalists and Physicians in Breslau formally declares, that, as no one among them had been disposed to meddle with the subject of homopathy, either in defence or in attack of it, it would have wished this subject to have been excluded from the general discussions. At the same time, the section was neither able nor desirous to take any steps to prevent any such open mention of it. It appears, in fact, that, at the last general meeting, Dr. Gebel read a dissertation in favour of homopathy, under the title "On the theory and practice of medicine." The contents, the form, and the tendency of this dissertation have excited the indignation of by far the greater part of the assembly. This has given occasion to the medical section forthwith publicly to invite the members of the section once more to an examination of this subject, and to meet here to-day; at which meeting Dr. Gebel has not appeared. Inasmuch, also, as, for physicians who are assembled together solely for scientific purposes, nothing has grown out of Dr. Gebel's communication, either of reasonable discussion or re-action of any value; the real medical members of the Association consider it their duty to reply to this dissertation and those unworthy insinuations simply by the present declaration. [Here follow the signatures of sixty physicians.]*

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

OCTOBER 6th. — Mr. Children, president, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Various donations of books and insects were announced, including valuable memoirs by Professor Gene, of Turin, upon insects injurious to agriculture, and a perfect nest of the *Mygale nidulans*, a large spider from Jamaica, by Mr. Sells. Various new and beautiful exotic insects were exhibited by the president: also the nest and eggs of the *Cicada septendecim*: and the following memoirs were read: Reports of the entomological proceedings at the late Edinburgh meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and at the Zoological Society. Descriptions of some new species of coleopterous insects, lately received from Monte Video, by S. S. Saunders, Esq. Memoir upon the earwig, comprising observations upon its natural history, and descriptions of some remarkable peculiarities of structure hitherto unnoticed by authors, by J. O. Westwood. A discussion ensued respecting the swarms of minute ants which have recently infested the houses in some parts of the metropolis to an intolerable degree. The necessity of minute observations upon the habits and characters of the species in question was particularly dwelt upon.

FINE ARTS.

MR. LOUGH,

Our distinguished sculptor, as, we learn, on the eve of setting out for Rome. His native genius has raised him to the highest honours of his profession, through obstacles that might have deterred the most enthusiastic from the noble efforts he has made (and in which he has so splendidly succeeded); and it now only remains to be seen what effect the study of the

immortal productions of Italy will have on such a mind.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Illustrations to Friendship's Offering, 1835.

Smith, Elder, and Co.

ELEVEN highly-finished plates, all possessing merit of various kinds, and of different degrees: merit, however, which justly entitles them to hold a distinguished rank among works of a similar nature. We proceed to notice them separately.—"My ain bonny lassie," drawn by E. T. Parris, engraved by H. T. Ryall. A little sparkling-eyed creature that must excite general envy of the happy man who has a right to call her by her title.—"The Intercepted Letter," drawn by E. C. Woods, engraved by F. Bacon. Plague take these old aunts and grandmothers, who are so abominably active in preventing "the course of true love" from "running smooth."—"Salzburg," drawn by W. Purser, engraved by E. Goodall. The sunny haze through which this picturesque and finely situated city is seen, is most happily managed.—"Childhood," drawn by A. E. Chalon, R.A., engraved by H. T. Ryall. From a drawing which we recollect at Somerset House. The taste with which the group is composed is sadly marred by the effect of the preposterous though fashionable curls of the eldest subject.—"The Farmer's Family," painted by Wright, engraved by W. Finden. Sweetly executed, and, like all scenes of domestic peace and love, deeply interesting.—"The Sultan's Daughter," painted by E. T. Parris, engraved by H. Cook. The general disposition of the figure is elegant, and the general effect rich; but the expression of the countenance is not pleasing, and the drawing of the hands is defective.—"Lucy," drawn by F. Stone, engraved by C. Rolls. A pretty and graceful female at her toilet. Like many of Mr. Stone's productions, the *tournure* is somewhat French.—"A Scene in the Apennines," drawn by C. Barrett, engraved by C. K. Richardson. An extensive and romantic prospect; full of picturesque beauty, and glowing in the beams of the setting sun.—"The Brazilian Bride," painted by J. Borden, engraved by H. Cook. Rather too black and white; but very charming nevertheless.—"The two Kates," painted by Miss F. Corbux, engraved by H. T. Ryall. Two of "the prettiest Kates in Christendom." Miss Corbux has managed her composition, both of form and of effect, with great taste and ability.—"The Devoted," drawn by T. Heapp, engraved by F. Bacon. A whole-length portrait of a beautiful and elegant woman; and on what more delightful subject can the imagination be left to indulge?

Illustrations of Ackermann's Forget-Me-Not, 1835.

TEN pleasing little prints. The most striking are—"Aunt Lucy," H. Wyatt pinxt., C. Rolls sculpt. Mr. Rolls has done great justice to the beautiful head, which was one of the principal ornaments of the last Suffolk-street Exhibition.—"Madeira," W. Westall, A.R.A. delt., E. Goodall sculpt. Realises our conceptions of the romantic scenery of that favourite residence of Hygeia.—"Mabel Grey," G. Cattermole pinxt., S. Davenport sculpt. An interesting rustic courtship. The "bold dragoon," however, would certainly prove nine feet high, if he were to rise.—"Milan Cathedral," S. Prout delt., J. Carter sculpt. The interior of this most magnificent specimen of ecclesiastical architecture in the world.—"The Village Tomb-cutter," A. Chisholm delt., S. Davenport

sculpt. Clever. The name of the designer is very appropriate. Who so fit to execute such a subject as *chisel'em*?—"The Trysting House," J. Wood pinxt., C. Rolls sculpt. Prettily composed.—"Now or Never," J. Wright delt., F. Bacon sculpt. The moment before "popping the question;" a scene from one of the Waverley novels. The arch look of the nymph is well contrasted with the embarrassment of the swain.

Illustrations of the Christian Keepsake and Missionary Annual, 1835. Fisher, Son, and Co.

WE believe the first appearance of this publication among the goodly society of annuals; at least we do not remember to have before met with it. Nor does it in any way disgrace its company; on the contrary, most of the thirteen subjects of which it is composed are treated admirably. Among them we would particularly instance—"Cowslip Green," and "Wrington Church," drawn by the Rev. H. Thompson; engraved, the former by W. Le Petit, the latter by J. Carter. These views of the early residence and of the present resting-place of the late Mrs. Hannah More, are very pleasing, both in themselves, and as awakening recollections of that highly estimable woman.—"Sidon," painted by Cassas, engraved by E. Goodall. A splendid effect of sunlight.—"The sacred Town and Temple of Dwarna," sketched by Capt. Grindlay; drawn by W. Purser; engraved by R. Wallis. The result of this trio is powerful and harmonious.—"The Widow's Mite;" drawn by A. Chisholm, engraved by E. Portbury. Praiseworthy, both as a work of art, and as an example of charity.—"Shae-tang, the Feast of Lanterns;" engraved by R. Sands, from a painting in the possession of the East India Company. A lively representation of Chinese festivities. The peculiar character of the architecture gives it singular interest.—"Part of the Great Fish River, South Africa;" drawn by W. Purser, engraved by E. Goodall. Exceedingly picturesque. But for the figures, and some of the foliage, we might fancy ourselves looking at a beautiful scene in the north of England.—"Infanticide in Madagascar;" drawn by H. Melville, engraved by J. Redaway. To what dreadful perversions may poor human nature be subjected by either superstition or misery!—"Pozzuoli, the ancient Puteoli;" drawn by W. H. Bartlett, engraved by J. C. Varrall. A fine view in itself; but rendered peculiarly interesting by its having been the landing-place of St. Paul in Italy.

Finden's Landscape Illustrations of the Bible. Parts VII. and VIII. Murray.

Or the six fine plates in these two parts, we were most struck with "View from Mount Lebanon," drawn by A. W. Callcott, R.A. from a sketch by Albert Way, Esq.; "Syracuse," drawn by C. Stanfield, A.R.A., from a sketch by Mrs. Callcott; and "Ruins of Selah" (Petra), drawn by D. Roberts, from a sketch by Count Léon de Laborde. Mr. Horne's description of the last-mentioned is highly characteristic:—

"Astonishment, for which language can scarcely find utterance, is the sentiment expressed by every traveller who has been able to explore the magnificent ruins of the once proud metropolis of Idumea, or Edom. A narrow and circuitous defile, surrounded on each side by lofty and precipitous, or perpendicular, rocks, forms the approach to the desolate yet magnificent scene delineated in our engraving. The

* Though in this No. we have, we trust, conveyed much interesting intelligence to our readers generally, yet, in continuing our papers on the British Association, we think we may safely promise more curious information derived from the best sources—more of Mr. Pentland's communications, and more of other topics touching which scarcely any thing has yet been published.—Ed. L. G.

ruins of the city here burst upon the view in their full grandeur, shut in on the opposite side by barren craggy precipices, from which numerous ravines and valleys branch out in all directions; the sides of the mountains, covered with an endless variety of excavated tombs and private dwellings, present altogether the most singular scene that can well be conceived."

BIOGRAPHY.

AMONG the recent losses which the literary world has sustained we have to mention—

Dr. Robert Gray, the Bishop of Bristol—a man distinguished throughout his life by a refined love of literature, by unassuming piety, and by immovable firmness of character, founded on the mildest principles of Christianity. He was the author of many publications; several of them reviewed in the *Literary Gazette*, with the praises they deserved; and others which appeared long before our Journal existed.

William Blackwood, the eminent publisher of Edinburgh, whose private estimation could hardly be increased even in a city where political feelings interfere far too much with the business and social intercourse of life, so as to embitter its best relations; and whose career, as connected with the press, has contributed largely to its honour, and to the profit and fame of his native land.

Captain James Weddell, the intrepid navigator, whose expedition towards the south pole has ranked him with the Cabots and the Middletons of former ages.

Of these, all of them our friends of by-gone years, we trust to be enabled to lay fitting memoirs before our readers.

DRAMA. DRURY LANE.

MR. DENVIL, whose announcement we noticed in our last, has since essayed his gallant attempt on the national boards twice, as *Shylock*. In the little theatre at Kensington we were struck by, and mentioned, his superior talents; and we are well pleased to see our opinions confirmed by his no small degree of success in this arduous undertaking. With a fine figure, a fine countenance, and an expressive eye, Mr. Denvil—though hitherto held in the shade of the inferior ranks—possesses striking dramatic requisites; nor does he want the judgment which may turn them to a good account. There are blemishes in his *Shylock*, but they are probably only the blemishes of natural agitation and anxiety on the opening of a new career to his ambition; and they are redeemed by much originality and many shining beauties. His merits, indeed, are so obvious, that they have already insured him a fair trial of his powers; and we consider it to be highly creditable to the management to bring such promising actors forward, and afford them opportunities of proving to the public what stuff is in them. The trial scene—a high test of skill—is admirable; and throughout there are touches of nature and of art which induce us to hope that this *debutant* will be a welcome accession to our stage in its present low estate, and do justice to many parts in its superior walks.

COVENT GARDEN.

Miss Clifton played *Lady Constance* in *King John* on Wednesday, her second London appearance. We saw her some months since essay her skill at Richmond, and thought more of her figure and good looks than of her histrionic abilities. We have not changed our mind

since. She is a showy and fine woman; not as yet a first-rate actress. In general the plays at the winter theatres have been very poorly done. Sometimes equal to barn work, sometimes worse, and very seldom better in some respects. The consequence has been miserably thin houses.

ENGLISH OPERA.

ON Thursday evening an historical drama, called *The Widowed Queen*, from the pen of Mr. Serle, interspersed with music by Mr. E. J. Loder, was produced at this theatre, and with deserved success, if not with brilliant *éclat*. By this mode of expression we mean to indicate not that it was deficient in merit; but merely that its merits were of so chaste and pleasing an order, that, while they gratified the audience in a high degree, they were not calculated to excite the more tumultuous signs of approval which sometimes mark far inferior productions. The story is very simple. The Duke of Suffolk, Charles Brandon, sent by Henry VIII. to escort home his sister Mary, the dowager queen of Louis XII., rekindles their early loves, and they secretly marry on their way. Their example is followed by the youthful page of the duke, and more youthful attendant of the queen; while their respective chamberlains, in amazement and fear, are swept within the vortex of danger by circumstances beyond their control. The second act brings the parties to England, where Henry frightens them terribly (and Cardinal Wolsey too) by a trick of his own invention; but the *dénouement* is felicitous instead of fatal—the king enjoys his joke, and the offenders their heads and other qualifications for their future well-being. The scenes between the mature and juvenile lovers are playfully involved and contrasted; and the dilemmas of the officials very entertaining. Henry's rough play is not so amusing. The dramatic construction of the piece altogether, however, is neat and skilful; and the dialogue always pointed—frequently very happy. Thus the rugged old *Chamberlain* (Williams), when he catches his master, Suffolk (Serle), kissing the *Queen*, warns them that "decorum is the art of doing that which we ought not to do with decency;" while his more obsequious brother (Oxberry) exclaims, when called on to remark the event, "See! I see nothing—to speak of." These are traits worthy of the better days of the Drama, though only examples of the author's epigrammatic talent. Mrs. Waylett was the *Queen*, and sang charmingly, especially one sweet ballad, which was encored. The *finale*, at the close of the first act, was also a striking specimen of the composer's musical talent. The *Page* and his mistress were cleverly performed by Miss E. Romer and Miss F. Healey; though, unfortunately, the former was too much indisposed to sing; and the latter, though she sung very prettily, seemed to be indisposed to allow the speaking part to be audible. This we the more regretted on account of the sweetness of their colloquies. Mr. Rumball made his bow here as *Henry*, and sustained his bluntness well, with perhaps a little too much of the "Ah! hah! hah!" Mr. Perkins performed *Wolsey* with great propriety; and Mr. Romer the *Mayor of Ardes* (presenting an address of condolence, very unappropriately, as the queen had just accepted her second lord) with much comic humour. The dresses and scenery were superb; every actor displayed both ability and zeal; and, as we have stated, the success of the drama was complete.

In the afterpiece of *Before Breakfast*, Mr.

G. F. Stanley—"out of place," (though no relation of him late of the thimble-rig company)—appeared as *Nicholas Trefoil*, and acquitted himself most satisfactorily.

HAYMARKET.

Of this theatre the present is the last night. Of the whole season, we may say that it has been conducted on a system honourable to the drama; and we trust that its success has been commensurate with its deserts.

ADELPHI.

The Chain of Gold, with its charming dances and other attractions, improves on every new representation; and a burlesque on *The Mountain Sylph*, called *The Kitchen Sylph*, has been produced with laughable success. O. Smith, Reeve, and, above all, Mrs. Keeley (who is exquisite in the kitchen-maid sylph), are excellent in this parody; and the better humours of minor theatricals are happily kept alive in its broad and amusing farcicality. *The pas des trois* by three *niggers* is an excellent black joke.

VICTORIA.

WITH full houses nightly to see the Glass Curtain, the management here is sedulous in adding novelties to its list. *The Mendicant Monk*, from a tale of Colley Grattan's, is of the order of sub-urban seductions; being founded on the monkey of La Trappe. Here, however, the Trappists speak, and are mixed up with ladies fair; and the only "silence" known is an inscription in lamp-light, which the gods take to be an injunction on themselves to preserve quiet. In the *Wandering Minstrel* Mitchell is admirable: we never saw a low comic character better dressed or acted. Miss Horton is a smart bean with a sweet song; Chippendale pleasantly humorous; and the rest of the characters well cast. Laughter is the best accompaniment of such a piece—and it never fails.

SURREY.

HERE Mr. Davidge has opened with a leading melodrama, the *Sleeping Draught*, and the *Duchesse de Berri*. In the middle piece he is himself highly diverting. The others are of the usual run. The house looks prettily, and is convenient and comfortable. Through the week it has been well attended.

VARIETIES.

Birmingham Musical Festival.—During several days of the week, Birmingham and its visitors have been enjoying a musical festival on a splendid scale. The chief novelty is a grand oratorio, entitled *David*, composed by the Chevalier Neukomm, in which Braham as *David*, Phillips as *Saul*, and Madame Stockhausen, Miss C. Novello (we believe), and other distinguished vocalists, have fine opportunities for the display of their powers.

Royal College of Surgeons.—The honorary gold medal of the Royal College of Surgeons of London was presented at a meeting of the council on Thursday last, the 9th instant, to George Bennett, Esq., whose interesting work on New South Wales, &c. we recently reviewed; in testimony of its appreciation of his scientific researches in comparative anatomy, and other branches of natural history.

Tea.—We took some pains in several *Gazettes*, within the last two years, to expose the infamous impositions practised in the manufacture of spurious teas from the growth of our common fields and hedges, and selling them at the enormous price of the foreign article. It seems, however, that the dealers in the

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latter, are determined no longer to be out-done. At the first sale of the free-trade tea in the city a few days since, samples of a cargo, pretended to be bohea from Singapore, were exhibited in the auction-room—but which turned out not to have one particle of genuine tea in the whole ship-load. It was accordingly withdrawn; no doubt to be mixed with the home article already so plentiful in the market. We shall have a precious compound, one way and the other, for general consumption!!!

The National Gallery.—The new National Gallery is now pretty highly reared; and they have stuck one wonderfully queer-looking old lady (in sculptured stone) upon the east-end. She seems to be frowning at the portico of St. Martin's church, and to be ready, with her immense shield, either to crush it, or with her sword to cut it down. The danger she threatens, together with the amiable spirit of wrangling which has taken possession of the inhabitants of this parish, have driven its worthy rector, Dr. Richards, to resign the living, in which indeed there seemed to be hardly any possibility of living with such architecture and such neighbours.

African Expedition.—The expedition from the Cape of Good Hope to explore central Africa, began its operations in June. On the 7th the wagons started from Cape Town, under the charge of a corporal of the 72d regiment, and on the 26th the heavy stores were shipped for Algoa Bay, on board the brig *Test*. These are expected to reach Graaf Reynet by the 15th July. The following statement has been received from the Cape. "Dr. Andrew Smith, conductor of the expedition; Capt. Edye, 98th regiment, second conductor; B. Keft conducts the leading department; John Burrow, surveyor and astronomer; George Ford, draughtsman; Charles Bell, draughtsman, and fit for any thing; C. Hartwell, assistant in general capacity; J. Minteen, servant to Dr. Smith; two missionaries, sent out by the Missionary Society established at Berlin; three European soldiers, (one of the 72d, and two of the 98th regiment) five Hottentots, of the Cape Mounted Rifle Corps; about twenty-two Hottentots, to be engaged at Graaf Reynet. Four wagons have been purchased, with ninety-six oxen; one with twenty-four oxen, belonging to Dr. Smith; and it is contemplated to buy one more, with twenty-four oxen. Fourteen of the Hottentots will be required as leaders and drivers of the oxen. Thus, the party will consist of about forty persons. The expense, exclusive of very considerable Government aid in fitting out, and exclusive of wages yet to be paid to Hottentot servants, may be estimated at 1,300*l*. On the morning of the 3d of July, this expedition for exploring Central Africa, under the command of Dr. Smith, proceeded on its perilous undertaking. Dr. Smith took up his quarters at the Royal Observatory on the preceding night, and was joined the next morning at breakfast by Sir John and Lady Herschel, Baron Ludwig, Messrs. Edye, Bell, Burrow, and the gentlemen who accompany the party as far as Lattakoo. After packing up the astronomical instruments, they started in excellent spirits, making allowance for those feelings the occasion excited, where solicitude for the safe return of these enterprising men was mixed up with sincere friendship and esteem. Indeed, the history of all former expeditions to the interior of Africa proves how much hazard must be incurred, even where the greatest prudence and address are exercised. The present has been planned with much care, and, considering the

talents of Dr. Smith, there is a strong hope that it will be crowned with success."

Royal Academy of Music.—The committee to whom the managers of this national Institution is entrusted, have resolved to appropriate the sum of 2,250*l*. (a fourth part of the proceeds of the late royal musical festival), which his majesty has graciously bestowed upon the Academy, in founding four scholarships, two male and two female, to be called *King's Scholarships*. Their entire musical education is to be defrayed from the interest of this principal, as well as from the general funds of the Institution. Candidates between the age of twelve and eighteen are invited to forward their claims, accompanied by a recommendation from a subscriber; and a public examination is appointed for the 22d of December, when the prizes will be awarded to the most deserving.

Cobbett.—Cobbett is bull-making in Ireland. In an account he has published respecting the food of the Irish poor, he says they boil their oatmeal in "cast-iron coppers." The last *Westminster Review* is also trying its logical hand in the same line of argument, for it says (p. 497), "from him who hath nothing, even that which he hath shall be taken!" *Ex nihilo nihil fit*, eh?

Earthquake.—On the 11th of September a smart shock of earthquake took place near Hainau, in Lower Silesia.

Tivoli.—The Romans are at present employed in diverting the stream which forms the cascade at Tivoli, so as to produce that effect on a different site; the waterfall having nearly destroyed its ancient bed.

Mr. Joseph Gilbert, the professor of chemistry, &c. at Turin, and well known to the scientific world by his chemical labours, and their application to improvements in the useful arts, died recently, after a long and painful illness. He was a pupil of the celebrated Lavoisier, and no less celebrated Fourcroy.

Almanacs.—The notice of one cheap almanac has laid us under contributions to a host. Here we have the *People's Almanac* (J. Cleave), containing 48 pages of very useful compilation. The *British Penny Almanac* not so much; but what it has is of the same order. The *British Diamond*, almost similar, in another form; and the *People's*, and the *British Tradesman's*. Varieties on the face of large sheets of paper. Of all the price is trifling.

Southwark Literary Society.—It appears from the last report of the committee of management of this useful Institution, that its prosperity continues to advance. There are now 474 members, all engaged in the acquisition of such information and instruction as the plan of the Society affords.

The Drama in France.—The King of the French pays 12,000 francs annually for royal boxes in the *opera comique*; which whole sum the directors endeavoured to appropriate to the management. But the authors claimed their share, 2,250 francs, under the plea that the payment was meant to encourage the dramatic art, and the tribunals have decided in their favour.

The Weather.—The uncommonly fine weather, which has continued during the last three weeks, has restored almost all the floral beauties of the summer to the gardens in many places. Blossoms and blossoms, hardly ever seen before in the month of August, are almost common when one-third of old October is gone.

New Specula for Reflecting Telescopes.—Professor Scarpellini, of Rome, has, it is stated, substituted a compact black marble, called *naro antico*, for the usual metallic and other specula

for telescopes; and found it to be a very great improvement on their accuracy and powers.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Tynley Hall, by T. Hood, Esq. As only the first two volumes of Mr. Hood's novel have yet come forth, we continue this week the abstinence of our last; and decline saying anything of the imperfect parts before us, to which course we are the more especially induced, as we hope our opinion of what we have read may be improved by the perusal of what we have not yet had an opportunity of reading.

The Spread, &c. A new journal has appeared at Cairo, in the Arabic, Turkish, and French languages, and containing home and foreign news, and mercantile intelligence. The *Moniteur Egyptien* has been discontinued.

In the Press.

The Young Man's Companion in the World, pointing, by anecdote and example, to its vices and virtues. Narrative of the Voyage of H.M.S. Chanticleer, in the years 1829, 1830, and 1831, under the command of the late Capt. Henry Foster. By W. H. B. Webster, Surgeon of the vessel.

Vathek, in the original French, by W. Beckford, Esq.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Modern Practice of Physic, by Robert Thomas, M.D., tenth edition. 8vo. 18s. bds.—A Synoptical View of the Diseases of the Chest, by R. M. Hawley, M.D. folio, 5s. sewed.—Elements of Euclid, by R. Simson, M.D., new edition, by Samuel Maynard, 18mo. 6s.—Physical Optics, by Thomas Exley, A.M., 8vo. 5s. bds.—The New Testament, translated from the original Greek, by Drs. Campbell, Doddridge, and Macknight, 32mo. 3s. 6d. cloth.—Catalogue of MSS. in the British Museum, new series, Vol. I. "Arundel MSS." fol. 1*l*. 8s.; or with coloured plates, 4*l*. 14s. 6d.—A Collection of English Poems and Odes, which obtained Medals at the Great and Dyfed Royal Eisteddfod, held at Cardiff on the 20th, 21st, and 22d August, 1834, 8vo. 1*l*. sewed.—Letters from India describing a Journey in the British Dominions during 1828, 9, 30, and 31, from the French of Victor Jacquemont, 2 vols. 8vo. 3*l*. 4s.—Dr. Henderson's Tabular View of Auscultation, 16*mo*. 6d. cloth case.—Lacina, new edition, 3 vols. 18mo. 12*l*. cloth.—Aldine Poet. Vol. XXXI. "Young." Vol. II. 5s. cloth.—Whewell's Astronomy (Bridgewater Treatise), fourth edition, 8vo. 9s. 6d. cloth.—M'Nish's Anatomy of Drunkenness, fifth edition, 12mo. 6s. cloth.—Milner's Life and Times of the Rev. Isaac Watts, D.D. 8vo. 16*l*. cloth.—Curtis on the Preservation of Hearing, 1*l*. gilt edges.—Des Dervais des Hommes, par Sylvio Pellico, 12mo. 4s. sewed.—The Forget-Me-Not, 1835, 12*l*. morocco.—The Juvenile Forget-Me-Not, 1835, 8*l*. morocco.—The Cabinet of Sacred Poetry, square 34mo. 2*l*. 6d. bds.; 3*l*. 6d. silk; 5*l*. morocco.—The Cabinet of Sacred Prose, square 34mo. 2*l*. 6d. bds.; 3*l*. 6d. silk; 5*l*. morocco.—Friendship's Offering, 1835, 12*l*. morocco.—The Comic Offering, 1835, 12*l*. morocco.—Griffin's Observations on the Spinal Cord, 8vo. 8*l*.—Prayers for Families, by Charles Watson, 8vo. 7*l*. 6d.—Elements of the Greek Language, by George Dunbar, 12mo. 4*l*. 6d.—Stegall's Manual for Apothecaries' Hall, sixth edit., 12mo. 7*l*. 6d. cloth.—Treatise on Comparative Physiology, from the German of Teidman by Gully and Lane, 8vo. 12*l*. cloth.—Translations into English verse, from the Poems of Davyath ap Gulyim, 12mo. 3*l*.—Domestic Manners and Private Life of Sir Walter Scott, by James Hogg, 18mo. 2*l*. cloth.—The Amulet, 1835, 12*l*. morocco.—The Juvenile Forget-Me-Not, by Mrs. Hall, 1835, 8*l*. morocco.—The Oriental Annual, 1835, 21*l*. morocco, large paper, 2*l*. 12*l*. 6d.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1834.

September.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 25	From 41 to 63	30.09 Stationary
Friday... 26	... 51 .. 64	30.04 to 29.92
Saturday... 27	... 50 .. 68	29.96 .. 29.83
Sunday... 28	... 51 .. 67	29.95 .. 30.05
Monday... 29	... 47 .. 65	30.14 .. 30.18
Tuesday... 30	... 41 .. 63	30.11 .. 30.07
October.		
Wednesday 1	... 44 .. 62	30.08 .. 30.05

Wind variable, S.E. prevailing.

The 25th generally clear; 26th and 27th cloudy, with rain at times on the morning of each day; since the 27th clear.

Rain fallen .25 of an inch.

The innumerable swarm of a small black fly, which have continued without intermission during the last three days, are as remarkable as they are annoying to the traveller.

Rain fallen at Highgate during the month of September, 1.210 inches.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We thought the compensation to the East India Company's officers, in the maritime service, had been settled on a liberal scale, as it truly ought to be; and are rather surprised to find any new statements, such as Mr. John Forbes' well-published "Dissent from the Proceedings of the Honourable Court," &c. to be at all called for. Not being connected with literary matter, however, we hope this paper will have its due weight, without appearing in our pages.

ADVERTISEMENTS, Connected with Literature and the Arts.

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